

"Peace" Conference Prepares War

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SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY DEMANDS TRUMAN ACT AGAINST LYNCH-MURDERS

James P. Cannon, National Secretary of the Socialist Workers Party, on August 2 sent President Truman the following telegram:

"The Federal Government must ferret out and prosecute to the full extent of the law the lynchers of the four Negroes in Georgia and end the reign of terror against the Negro people.

"The Federal Government must prosecute Bilbo, Talmadge, Rankin, Eastland and the other officials, all prominent members of your political party, who have instigated these lynchings from high office.

"We further demand that you reconvene Congress for the express purpose of enacting effective anti-lynching legislation.

"Your Administration will go down in history as the accomplice of the Ku Klux Klan and other fascist gangs unless you put an end to the government's policy of whitewash investigations and buckpassing.

HALT THE LYNCHERS!

To the National and Local Leaders of the CIO, AFL and Railroad Brotherhoods:

The lynching of Negroes in Georgia and Mississippi is of immediate concern to you, your organizations and every working man and woman in the United States. The main aim of this reign of terror is to discourage any attempts to organize the South for a fight against low wages and the open shop.

The chief behind-the-scenes instigators of this violence against the Negro people are the big corporations. Their purpose is to set the stage for an anti-labor offensive in all parts of the country. Success in the South would provide encouragement for the vigilante bands, Ku Kluxers, anti-labor hoodlums and fascist gangs to assault and murder union men, burn union headquarters, break up union meetings and picketlines in the North as well as in the South. This sinister plot of Big Business must be nipped in the bud.

The labor movement cannot depend on either the federal or local governments to stamp out these terrible crimes. Federal and local governments are honeycombed with officials who actively aid or secretly connive with the lynch mobs. Poll taxes and exponents of "white supremacy" hold the most important Cabinet and Congressional posts.

On the floor of Congress the Bilbos and Rankins openly incite mob violence against Negroes. Both Republican and Democratic administrations have consistently refused to enact anti-lynching legislation. Federal and state investigations have uniformly failed to bring a single culprit to justice.

In Columbia, Tenn., where lynchers aided by state troops murdered Negroes and terrorized the whole Negro community, the victims are being prosecuted while the criminals go scot-free.

In Freeport, N. Y., the killer of two Negro veterans walks the streets in police uniform. Dewey's "investigation" of these murders is an outrageous farce.

In Aiken, S. C., officials refuse even to discuss the fiendish atrocity of police who gouged out the eyes of Isaac Woodward, Negro veteran with five-years service.

In Fontana, Calif., local authorities refused to investigate the arson murders of O'Day Short and his family who resisted efforts to drive them from their home.

In Chicago, Ill., 59 separate arson bombings and shootings have taken the lives of three Negroes during the last 27 months. Only four of the terrorists were apprehended, and not one convicted.

And now in Georgia and Mississippi five more lives have been brutally snuffed out, with no sign of effective federal or local action against the lynchers.

For these reasons the labor movement should demand of President Truman:

1. Immediate and vigorous steps to apprehend and prosecute the lynchers in Georgia and Mississippi.

2. Immediate indictment and prosecution of Bilbo, Talmadge, Rankin, Eastland and the others who instigated these lynchings.

3. Reconvene Congress for the express purpose of enacting effective federal anti-lynching legislation.

To back up these demands, the unions should take independent action along the following lines:

1. Set up a broad committee composed of representatives of the unions, Negro and veteran organizations. This committee should conduct its own investigation of the lynchings at the scene of the crimes. It should offer a large reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the lynchers.

2. Set up Defense Guards to protect the lives and homes of Negroes and other minorities in danger of attacks by the terrorists.

National Committee,
Socialist Workers Party

Negro Flogged To Death In Mississippi

Another victim was added on July 24 to the recent bloody toll of Jim-Crow lynching when the beaten body of Leon McTatie, 35-year-old sharecropper, was found floating in a Lexington, Mississippi, bayou. He had been flogged to death two days previously by six white Mississippi landowners.

McTatie is the fifth reported victim since the lynch-incitation campaigns conducted in recent elections by Senator Bilbo of Mississippi and Governor-elect Eugene Talmadge of Georgia.

The murder of McTatie was uncovered the day before the Georgia mass lynching of four Negro farm-hands, including two women. It was not made public until after the Georgia murders.

FALSELY ACCUSED

McTatie had been falsely accused of stealing a saddle from a white man, Jeff Dodd. McTatie's employer, Dixie Roberts, together with Dodd and four others, went to McTatie's shack and beat him to a pulp with a leather strap and buggy whip.

Roberts claimed only that "we whipped him and ordered him to leave this section." But the local sheriff revealed that it was "evident" the victim had been thrown from a car into the bayou and that he was dead at the time.

The sheriff also disclosed that a warrant for McTatie's arrest had not been carried out. Instead, Dodd had made bond for him, stating: "I need him to help me make my cotton crop." This was obviously a ruse to get hold of McTatie.

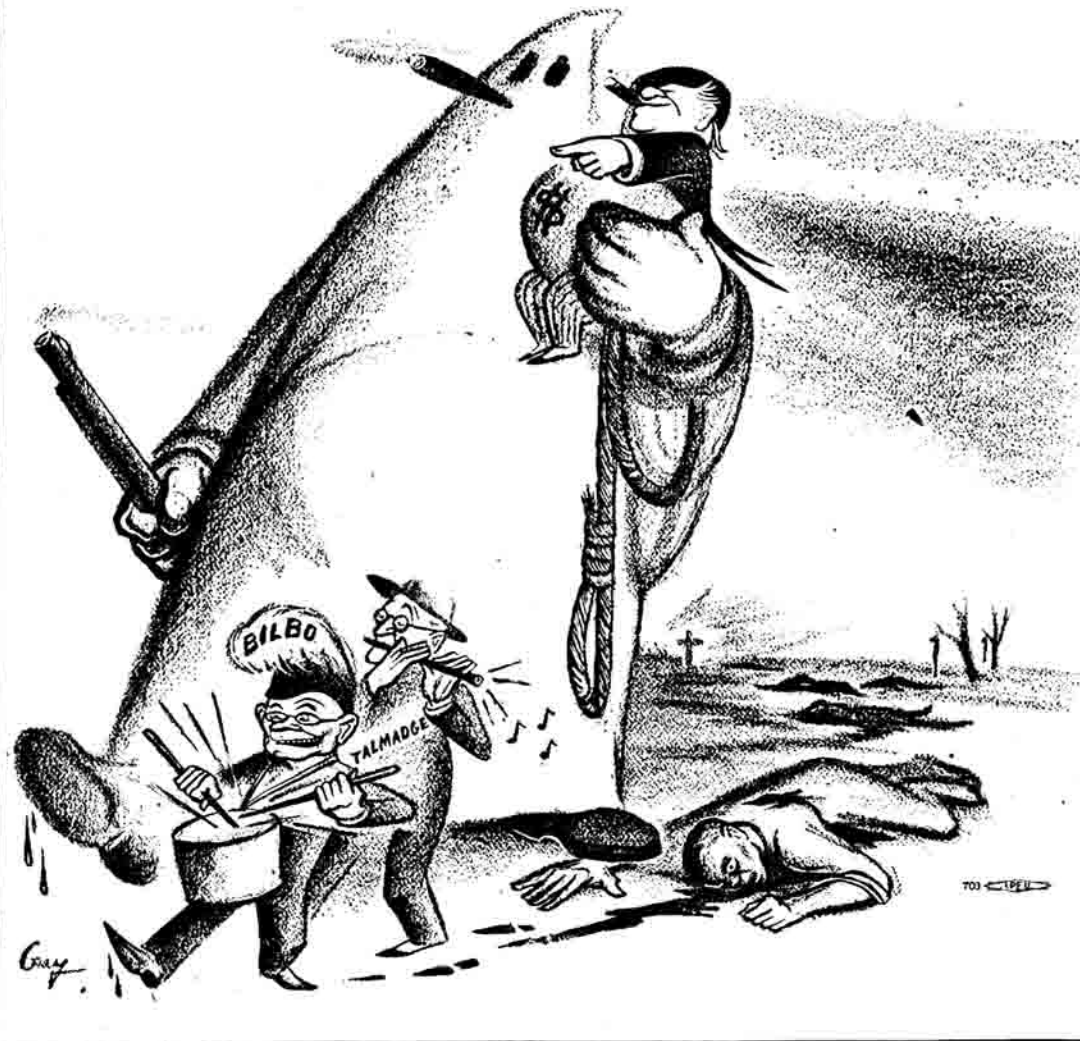
Six days later another person confessed to stealing the saddle.



Burial of one of Georgia
Lynch Victims

UAW Heads Denounce Arson-Attack On SWP

Marching Through Georgia



AVC Urges Veterans' Benefits Be Geared To Living Cost Rises

The American Veterans Committee through its National Planning Committee called on Congress last week to enact immediately a blanket amendment to all veterans' laws gearing veterans' benefits to the cost of living.

The AVC position on this question is in line with the demand previously raised by The Militant and the Socialist Workers Party. In articles and editorials, The Militant has been campaigning for a sliding scale of allowances, automatically rising as the cost-of-living rises, for jobless, student and disabled veterans.

AVC National Chairman Charles G. Bolte stated: "As prices rise, veterans' benefits diminish in value and the real income of the veteran sinks lower and lower."

REAL INCOME LOWER

Bolte said that an overseas veteran's mustering-out pay worth a full \$300 in 1942 is now worth only \$105.

"A veteran with 100 per cent disability can obtain up to \$200 a month under law, but his real income is now cut to \$70 a month," he said. "More than any other part of the population, returning veterans are today being hit by rapidly rising prices, since all veterans' benefits are legislated by law and are pegged at a set figure."

For these reasons, said Bolte,

the National Planning Committee had voted unanimous approval of the following statement:

"In view of the critical status of veterans' benefits in this period of spiraling prices, AVC calls upon the Congress before it adjourns to enact: A blanket amendment to all veterans' laws gearing veterans' benefits to the price index and the cost of living index with upward and downward adjustments to be made according to price rises or declines."

Vets Tell Bloody Toll Of Defective Shells

Big Business and Army Big Brass efforts to cover up the origin of defective mortar shells which killed and wounded many American soldiers, are being frustrated by veterans.

In letters to the Senate War Investigation Committee, now hearing testimony on this scandal, combat soldiers and veterans are providing plenty of clues leading to the makers of this ammunition which exploded in muzzles and barrels with fatal consequences. These letters are also giving a better picture of the real number of such casualties.

"ONLY A DOZEN"

Major General Alden H. Waitt, chief of the Chemical Warfare Service, admitted under pressure that there had been fatalities through premature explosions of these shells. He claimed, however, that these amounted to only ten or a dozen soldiers.

But letters from two combat soldiers during the war, produced at the hearings, stated

that a number of squads had been blown up by their own ammunition. There are 12 men in a squad. A few days later, Waitt revised his own estimates upward to 29 killed and 83 wounded.

Waitt also testified that although he "sweat blood," he found it impossible "to pin" the responsibility on any manufacturers.

TYPICAL LETTERS

But one of the typical letters from veterans offers to supply the lot number of the defective 4.2 shells shipped to the 100th Chemical Mortar Battalion in Italy.

One soldier writes that he had kept a record of defective shells sent to the 65th Chemical Company in Belgium. Another writes that the origin of these shells which killed many men in the Battle of the Bulge, could be obtained through battalion orders issued at the time. Another states that a complete report had been furnished General Waitt's CWS, of a test at Fort Bragg, N. C. where an entire crew was killed and wounded.

Similar revelations were made by Warren in the midst of the war. The Militant over two years ago, on April 8, 1944, revealed that his reports on war graft and profiteering were being buried.

Among the worst grafters were members of the Maritime Commission, which gave away billions of dollars worth of ships. Their practices were so flagrant that Warren says he "personally asked Admiral Emory S. Land, Maritime Commission Chairman, to stop it." But Warren was ignored.

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HALF MILLION BAD

An army officer refuted the claim that only a few of these shells were defective. "On numerous occasions we were unable to make any shipments to the (Normandy) front because all the stock, upwards of 100,000 shells was impounded." He said that at least 50 lot numbers were impounded. Until V-J Day, 500,000 shells were reworked to correct their defects in order to reship to the Pacific theatre.

Reuther, Thomas And Addes Protest Outrage In Detroit

(Special to The Militant)

DETROIT, Aug. 1.—Walter Reuther, R. J. Thomas and George Addes, top officers of the CIO United Auto Workers, head the list of prominent labor and Negro spokesmen who this week publicly denounced the fascist-like incendiary attack on the Socialist Workers Party headquarters here last Thursday evening. The fire imperiled the lives of more than 100 workers at an SWP meeting and seriously damaged the headquarters.

UAW President Reuther, calling for vigorous action to arrest and prosecute the arsonists, said: "If the right of the Socialist Workers Party to meet publicly can be suppressed, by whatever means, then the democratic rights of all citizens and groups are menaced."

Similar public protest was voiced by UAW Vice-President Thomas, who declared: "It seems to me that this fire which was started at the Socialist Workers Party headquarters is just another attempt to stymie democracy in this country and smacks of the methods employed by Hitler."

In a letter to the Socialist Workers Party, UAW Secretary-Treasurer Addes stated: "There is no room, either in the political life of the nation or in the labor movement, for such acts of terrorism."

(Special to The Militant)

DETROIT, Aug. 2.—Outstanding labor, Negro and church leaders here will address a mass rally on August 15 to protest the anti-labor arson attack on the Socialist Workers Party Detroit headquarters last week. The rally will be held Thursday, August 15, 8 p.m., at the Danish Brotherhood Hall, 1755 W. Forest street, under the auspices of the Socialist Workers Party.

Call Mass Rally In Detroit To Fight Terrorism

Rally speakers will include Emil Mazey, CIO United Auto Workers Detroit East Side Regional Co-Director; Gloster Current, Director of Branches, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; William Jenkins, president of UAW Chrysler Local 490; Al Renner, business representative of the AFL Hotel and Restaurant Employees of America; Horace White, Minister of Plymouth Congregational Church; Matthew Smith, Secretary of the Mechanics Educational Society of America; and Mrs. Myra Tanner Weiss, Los Angeles Organizer of the Socialist Workers Party.

Arthur Burch, Detroit Organizer of the Socialist Workers Party, will be chairman. Burch will also discuss "Vigilante Terror in Detroit" in a radio address over Station WJLB on Tuesday, August 13, at 5 p.m.

Myra Tanner Weiss was the main speaker at the meeting of the SWP last week when an audience of over 100 workers had to flee for their lives after fascist incendiaries sprinkled the stairways with inflammable liquid and set it on fire. She has been on a tour exposing just such fascist-like terrorism against Negroes and other minorities.

(More on Detroit outrage, Page Two.)

One of the sharpest denunciations was issued by Gloster Current, Director of Branches, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Mr. Current called the burning of the SWP hall "another instance where arson has become a technique of terrorism in Detroit. Just as the burning of the newly purchased home of Omega Nelson, a discharged Negro war veteran in May 1946, constitutes mob violence against Negroes, so the Socialist Workers Party fire constitutes intimidation and violence against a political minority."

Horace White, Minister of the Plymouth Congregational Church, declared: "In many ways it is as momentous in its deeper implications as the shooting of four Negroes in the State of Georgia."

Other labor and minority group leaders who have condemned the arson attack include: Emil Mazey, UAW Detroit East Side Regional Co-Director; Gus Scholle, Michigan CIO Council president; Sam Sage, Wayne County CIO Council secretary; Matthew Smith, Mechanics Educational Society secretary; Joseph Tuma, UAW International Representative; and the president of many UAW local unions.

UAW-CIO STATEMENTS ON DETROIT OUTRAGE

Following is the text of the statements issued by Walter Reuther and R. J. Thomas, president and vice-president respectively of the CIO United Automobile Workers, denouncing the arson outrage against the Detroit SWP headquarters.

I disagree very vigorously with the program of the Socialist Workers Party and reject its philosophy; but I believe just as vigorously in the right of its members to assemble publicly and to express their opinions on matters of public interest.

The attempt recently made to terrorize this group by setting fire to the building in which they were meeting will be condemned by all citizens in the community who respect the democratic process and who believe in civil liberties.

If the right of the Socialist Workers Party to meet publicly can be suppressed, by whatever means, then the democratic rights of all citizens and groups are menaced.

For these reasons among others, I call upon law enforcement authorities in this city to take vigorous action to apprehend and prosecute to the full extent of the law the person or persons responsible for this act of arson.

WALTER REUTHER

Although I and the Socialist Workers Party may have had in the past many disagreements, I believe in the philosophy of fighting for the rights of any group to say what they want to say. It seems to me that this fire which was started at the Socialist Workers Party Headquarters is just another attempt to stymie democracy in this country, and smacks of the methods employed by Hitler.

Every American should protest any such sabotage as this. Unless we do so loudly and effectively democracy will be destroyed in America.

R. J. THOMAS

War Profiteers Looted 'Untold Billions'

War profits frauds amounting to "untold billions" were charged against America's leading corporations by U.S. Comptroller General Lindsay C. Warren last week in hearings before the Senate War Investigating Committee.

Warren, whose job is to audit all government payments and who is known as the "Watchdog of the Treasury," said that "everybody and his brother" was out to "get the government during the lush war years." The corporation crooks were aided by a "terrific lobby" of government and military officials.

Naming names, Warren put the finger on General Motors, Ford, Boeing Aircraft, Lockheed,

Vultee, Curtiss-Wright, Bell Aircraft and other corporate giants which benefited from the "unconscionable" looting of the public treasury.

Billions were "given away" to the big corporations in war contracts renegotiations alone, Warren revealed.

When asked "Do You mean they (government officials) gave back the same billions they recovered in negotiations?" Warren shot back:

"That — and more!"

Ten days after Pearl Harbor the laws dealing with contract procedure were rigged to prevent any proper investigation of contracts, Warren charged. Subsequently officials who tried to

question or halt the gigantic war theft were victimized.

The General Accounting Office is so restricted in its right to scrutinize war contracts that it "may not question a favored firm, an extravagant price nor a specious undertaking," said Warren.

The Renegotiation Act was so changed after Pearl Harbor that the General Accounting Office was permitted to make only such audits as "could be consummated by a 10-year-old child in 10 seconds."

On "orders from higher up," Warren testified, those few honest auditors who tried to halt the looting were "sent to the sticks." His office was bound by law "to whitewash almost any conceivable

cost" in cost-plus war contracts. Investigation is tolerated now, he charged, only after "the door is forever closed to inquiry and recovery by the government."

While American workers slaved seven days a week at frozen wages in war plants, and soldiers died on battlefields, government officials wallowed in luxury and graft provided by the big war contractors.

"With some high officials of the government the acceptance of entertainment, including cocktail parties, hotel bills and even travel from the contractor, while at the same time drawing pay from the government, was the rule rather than the exception," Warren testified.

Furthermore, many army officials

who pulled strings for the corporations, are now reaping rewards as executives of those firms, he said, naming a number of specific cases.

Among the worst grafters were members of the Maritime Commission, which gave away billions of dollars worth of ships. Their practices were so flagrant that Warren says he "personally asked Admiral Emory S. Land, Maritime Commission Chairman, to stop it." But Warren was ignored.

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CIO Leaders Retreat From Wage Fight; Substitute Weak Program Calling For "Roll Back" Of Prices

By Art Preis

Just before the adoption of the new OPA bill last month, the leadership of the CIO announced that the workers "need immediate wage raises" to compensate for rising living costs. While offering no program of action to win higher wages, they admitted that there was no hope of halting price rises and that workers' living standards could be protected only by regaining more wages.

Walter Reuther, president of the powerful CIO United Automobile Workers, on July 15 declared that "if our fight against increased prices fails we will begin a fight on the wage front." He likewise stated that the UAW would "reopen all wage contracts" if prices continued to mount.

Prices are continuing to mount.



WALTER REUTHER

The new OPA itself is daily ratcheting out new price increases like a machine-gun. The notion that the Big Business government intends to put the slightest curb on rampaging prices is sheer illusion.

It is under these conditions that CIO President Philip Murray and the CIO Executive Board to all appearances have abandoned completely any program for winning higher wages. Instead they are urging the CIO members to turn their efforts exclusively to a program to "roll back" prices.

Principally, the CIO leaders are advocating the so-called "buyers' strikes," a campaign of letters and telegrams to Washington to "present the people's demand for a maximum price control under the law," and "political action at the polls."

NO REFERENCE TO WAGES

No reference to wages is made in Murray's latest statement of policy, a letter sent out to CIO officials on August 2, except to "urge President Truman to call a conference of labor and management to deal with the urgent problem of rising living costs and existing wage levels."

What the CIO leaders propose as a program is in the main a repetition of policies which proved utterly bankrupt during the war and the immediate post-war inflation.

Throughout the war, while the workers were shackled with the no-strike pledge, the union leaders diverted any fight for higher wages into a fruitless campaign to "roll back" prices. The workers were led to place dependence on the Big Business government to "control" prices.

Wages were frozen, but prices—and profits—soared higher and higher.

Right after the end of the war, the union leaders turned to a government-sponsored labor-management conference. That conference turned into a complete fiasco. The only gains, even though temporary, which the workers finally won were achieved through a militant strike struggle for higher wages.

For years, the workers have been urged to send letters and

telegrams to Congress. Congress could afford to ignore them, because this type of appeal was used as a substitute for militant action. The workers have gone through another such experience in connection with the union leaders' demand for a "strong" OPA.

WORKERS CAN BUY ONLY ESSENTIALS

As for "political action," by this Murray means supporting more capitalist "friends of labor" in the Democratic or Republican parties to replace the "friends of labor" the CIO-PAC helped elect in 1944.

The only real program proposed by the CIO leaders for mass participation to combat higher prices is the "buyers' strike."

It is misleading, however, to urge such "buyers' strikes" as an effective method of preventing higher prices. The incomes of most workers are so low, and prices are now so high, that all that the workers can buy now are the barest essentials.

In effect, the so-called buyers' strikes turn out to be merely boycotts of particular merchants or brands of merchandise. They usually become merely an organized form of shopping around for the lowest prevailing prices. The low-income consumers have to do that anyway.

MILITANT ACTION NEEDED

Demonstrations and picket lines against price-gougers and rent hogs are a good and necessary form of struggle—but only as part of a program of militant action as described in *The Militant*, August 3. And they can only supplement the most effective form of struggle against higher prices—the fight for higher wages and the insertion of escalator clauses in all union contracts.

A dangerous slant has been given to the issue of wages and prices by Walter Reuther, president of the CIO Auto Workers.

He, apparently, has backed down from his threats of "reopening the wage contracts" and has adopted the false argument of the employers that the only way to stop inflation is to get "more production."

Reuther called for a conference with the auto corporations to discuss ways and means to get more production. The Big Three—General Motors, Ford and Chrysler—ignored the invitation and used the occasion to blame low production on "strikes."

The corporations are always anxious to get "more production"—by which they mean getting the workers to turn out more goods through speed-up and longer hours for the same money wages.

Together with the program of "more production," Reuther is reported in the press to be accepting the phoney capitalist economic theory that demands for higher wages will only force up prices.

Higher wages are used by the bosses as a pretext to raise prices. Raising wages merely means to give the workers a greater share of the product and to reduce the fat profits to the owners. Reuther himself proved during the GM negotiations that the corporation could give big wage boosts without increasing prices and still make huge profits.

FIGHT FOR HIGHER WAGES

A program of militant action to give the masses themselves the right to inspect corporation records, expose profiteering and fix prices is necessary—but only as a supplement to the fight for higher wages. The milk-and-water program of Murray and Reuther is designed to side-track the real fight.

The effective answer to the profiteers and their inflationary drive is contained in the demand to "reopen all wage contracts."

The union ranks must insist on a militant wage policy. And as the most immediate and direct attack on continuously mounting prices, the unions must demand a sliding scale of wages that will rise automatically with every rise in living costs.

Addes' Letter On Arson-Attack

Following is the text of a letter to the Socialist Workers Party by George Addes, UAW Secretary-Treasurer, denouncing the arson outrage against the Detroit SWP headquarters.

Despite my well-known opposition to the program, policies and tactics of the Socialist Workers Party, I cannot but deplore the gangsterism that led to the recent burning of their Detroit headquarters.

There is no room, either in the political life of the nation or in the labor movement, for such acts of terrorism. They serve only to bring discredit upon the labor movement and to encourage similar acts of violence against labor and minority political parties by thugs and gangsters in the service of reaction.

GEORGE ADDES

Weird Lie Of Stalinists On The Fire

The fascist-like incendiary attack on the Detroit headquarters of the Socialist Workers Party two weeks ago has aroused indignant protest from almost all Detroit labor, Negro and other progressive circles. Even local Stalinist union leaders have been forced by the workers' pressure to join this protest.

There is one group in the labor movement, however, which not only has failed to defend the victims of this anti-labor outrage, but is using it as the basis for slander against them. That group is the leadership of the Communist (Stalinist) Party.

The Stalinist Daily Worker, July 30, pretends the "fire in the Trotskyite headquarters had all the earmarks of a 'Reichstag'

fire operation"—a plot designed by the SWP itself to afford "the police and other reactionary agents an excuse to attack Communists and other labor groups under cover of protecting the pseudo labor fifth column Trotskyite organization."

In short, the SWP is accused of setting fire to its own headquarters, endangering the lives of its own members at a jammed

meeting—all to further an alleged "Trotskyite-fascist" plot to provoke police action against Stalinists!

The Detroit police, in an attempt to divert attention away from anti-labor fascist groups with which they have close connections, did intimate that the arsonists might be "communist factionalists." This police invention was publicly denounced and exposed by Arthur Burch, Detroit SWP organizer. (See *The Militant*, July 27.)

Why then do the Stalinist leaders use police and Hearst press lies in cooking up their own fantastic slander that the Trotskyists risked burning themselves to death just to give the reactionaries a pretext to attack Stalinists?

Because the Stalinist leaders cannot explain how it is that the Trotskyists whom they have slandered as "fascists" and "Hitlerites" are the victims of a fiendish attack by anti-labor fascist elements.

Communist Party rank and filers must wonder why the Trotskyists are victims of a fascist-like outrage; why the Detroit labor and Negro organizations have denounced the outrage as a threat to all labor and oppressed minorities. They must wonder how it happened that a "pseudo-labor fifth column" was holding a meeting to mobilize workers to fight "The War Preparations Against the Soviet Union."

Any thinking CP member must conclude that the Stalinist leaders have been lying about the Trotskyists being "fascists" and "pseudo-labor." Hence the need for these leaders to bolster up

these lies with their latest weird invention.

It is true that the Detroit police have intimated that the Stalinists might have perpetrated the arson outrage. But the whole notorious record of Stalinist gangsterism itself has given the police a convenient handle.

The Stalinist press is full of violent incitations against the Trotskyists and all other working class opponents of Stalinism. Throughout the war, the Daily Worker itself kept "calling cop" on the Socialist Workers Party, demanding imprisonment of SWP members. Militant distributors have been attacked by organized Stalinist goons in one city after another. The Stalinists, in this respect, have set an example for the fascists.

Nor is murder of Trotskyists excluded from the Stalinist arsenal. We need but recall the proven Stalinist-organized machine gun and fire-bomb assault on Leon Trotsky's home in Mexico on May 24, 1940, and the subsequent pick-axe assassination of Trotsky by an agent of Stalin's secret police. Then, too, the Stalinist press advanced a "self-assault" theory.

By failure to defend the SWP against fascist terrorism, by denying the anti-labor character of the arson attack on the Detroit SWP, by slandering the victims of the attack, by their own example of gangsterism, the Stalinist leaders only give aid and comfort to the Detroit fascist terrorists.

Thus Stalinism adds one more to its endless list of crimes and betrayals against labor and oppressed minorities.

Minnesota SWP Candidates File For Ballot



C. K. Johnson (at the right), Minnesota election campaign manager, pays the filing fees to a clerk in the Secretary of State's office on July 31 as the SWP candidates file for office. Warren Creel, candidate for 3rd District Congressman; Dorothy Schultz, 4th District Congresswoman; Grace Carlson, Senatorial candidate, look on.

Minnesota SWP Candidates File Petition To Place Party On Ballot

(Special to The Militant)

ST. PAUL, Aug. 1.—Petitions to place three Socialist Workers Party candidates on the Minnesota ballot in November were filed here yesterday. They are: Grace Carlson, candidate for U. S. Senator; Warren Creel, for U. S. Representative from the Third District; Dorothy Schultz, for U. S. Representative from the Fourth District.

Although only 3,000 signatures were required to file candidates for these three posts, C. K. Johnson, campaign manager, turned in petitions with over 4300 signatures. Because of Minnesota election regulations, the Socialist Workers Party candidates cannot appear on the ballot under the party's own name. Revolutionary Workers Party has been chosen as the ballot designation.

Press releases carrying the news of the filing by the SWP candidates were sent to some 300 Minnesota papers. The metropolitan dailies here and in Minneapolis today featured the news that the SWP candidates will appear on the ballot in November.

Entrance of the SWP into the election campaign brings a working class party into the November contest for Senator and Third and Fourth District Representatives. The SWP was the only party to file for these offices by petition. The Socialist Labor Party, using the ballot name, Industrial Government Party, filed a candidate for Governor by petition.

Grace Carlson will campaign for Senator against the Republican candidate, Governor Edward Thye—a Stassen machine man—and the Democratic-Farmer-Labor candidate, Theodore Jorgenson—a professor in a small private college.

Warren Creel and Dorothy Schultz oppose the incumbent Congressmen from the Third and Fourth Districts, William Gallagher and Frank Starkey, who are running for re-election on the Democratic-Farmer-Labor ticket. Both of these Congressmen voted for President Truman's infamous draft-labor bill, which smashed the railroad strike. George McKinnon and Edward Devlin are the Republican candidates for Third and

Fourth District Congressmen.

The official leaders of the Minnesota trade union movement are playing their usual shabby role in this election campaign. The state CIO-PAC, in the control of the Stalinists, has endorsed the DFL ticket. Sections of the AFL are also supporting the DFL slate; other AFL sections are dividing their support between the DFL and Republican candidates.

Thousands of Minnesota workers and farmers are disgusted with this political set-up, which leaves them with no bona-fide spokesmen. "The ease with which we obtained more than 4300 signatures in three weeks time is an indication of the fact that the Socialist Workers Party campaign is finding a warm response in Minnesota working class circles," said Campaign Manager Johnson.

WARM RESPONSE

"Since the liquidation of the Farmer-Labor Party, this will be the first time that labor candidates have appeared on the state ballot," Johnson pointed out. "The present so-called Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party is nothing but the old Democratic machine with a few new 'labor leader' cogs."

The Socialist Workers Party candidates are campaigning on a platform which calls for a rising scale of wages to meet the rising cost of living; full employment and job security for all workers and veterans; an independent labor party; full equality for Negroes and other minority groups; a tax on the rich and not the poor; guaranteed cost of production to farmers without crop limitation; withdrawal of all American troops from foreign soil.

\$500 EMERGENCY FUND ASKED TO AID DETROIT SWP LOCAL

Rallying promptly behind the Detroit Local of the Socialist Workers Party, whose headquarters was set on fire last week by anti-labor arsonists, the SWP nationally has called on all its branches and sympathizers to contribute a special \$500 fund to aid the Detroit comrades.

In an appeal to the SWP branches, the SWP national office reported: "Anti-labor vandals set fire last week to the party headquarters in Detroit while a public meeting was being held. All comrades and visitors escaped without injury but considerable damage was done to the hall and equipment. A typewriter and mimeograph machine were damaged; quite a bit of furniture and fixtures were destroyed; a large quantity of literature was rendered useless. The damage will total at least \$500.

"This has been a heavy financial blow to the Detroit comrades. It will be hard for them to repair the loss without help. We therefore propose that the entire party pitch in and help."

PROPOSED QUOTAS

The following are the proposed fund quotas to be fulfilled by local branches:

Robertson Telegram Arouses Railway Men

By Lou Manning
(Special To The Militant)

The full text of President David B. Robertson's strike-breaking telegram to all General and Local Chairmen of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen is now public property. It appears on page 19 of the July Firemen's Magazine, together with a lot of explanations designed to cover up the foul deed.

Because this telegram will rank high on the long list of betrayals of the railroad workers by their craft leadership, we quote it in full:

"Assistant President Goff informs me that wage and rules issues have been disposed of by consummation of agreements this afternoon between carriers' conference committees and the 15 non-operating organizations providing for 18½ cents per hour increase in rates of pay and for suspension of rules discussion for one year. This does not preclude dealing with rules on individual railroads.

"It has not been the policy of our Brotherhood to strike against the Federal Government which has been in possession of and operating the railroads since May 17. Hence all members of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen whether employed as engineers, motormen, firemen, helpers, hostlers or hostler helpers should immediately report for work in response to the request of the President of the United States in order that our country's reconversion program may be promoted and full production attained.

"Certainly members of the Brotherhood who work for the Government may not be regarded as strikebreakers under our laws.

"A complete report and copy of the agreement will be sent as soon as conditions permit. This telegram is being sent to all General and Local Chairmen in the United States.

(Signed) D. B. Robertson."

EXPLOSIVE REACTION

When the logical reaction to this telegram took on the nature of a virtual explosion in the ranks of the BLFE membership, Robertson was forced into immediate action to try to cover up his treachery to the striking engineers and trainmen. His first excuse was that he did not send out this message until he was informed by "press and radio reports" that the strike was ended.

In the first place, can you imagine a president of a labor union sending out a message of this kind on mere press and radio reports? Even a striking worker would be condemned for reporting for work on such information.

Secondly, if he really thought that the strike was over, then why did he tell the men to "report for work in response to the request of the President of the United States" and say that "certainly members of the Brotherhood who work for the Government may not be regarded as strikebreakers under our laws," etc.? What would be his object in sending out such instructions if he thought the strike was over?

Thirdly, if he did not intend to break the strike with that telegram, why did he send it out? His organization, the BLFE, was not out on strike. All BLFE enginemen who were out on strike, and there were about 35,000 of them, were under the complete jurisdiction and control of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Enginemen on all roads where that organization held the contract.

for locomotive engineers. On all roads where Robertson's organization, the BLFE, had the contract for both engineers and firemen, there was no strike in effect.

DEMAND REMOVAL

Only one logical conclusion can be drawn, and that is that he tried to break the strike of the rival union, the BLE.

That was the conclusion drawn by the average BLFE member and Robertson's office was swamped with letters and telegrams demanding not only explanations but his resignation as President of the BLFE. One local circulated a petition to all subordinate lodges calling for a special convention to remove him from office.

Let us hope that Robertson's infamous telegram will be the final act in his long and reactionary career and that the delegates of the 1947 BLFE Convention will drive him from office in disgrace.

What Do You Say?

Question: There has been a great increase in activity by the Ku Klux Klan and other anti-labor, anti-Negro outfits. What do you think is the reason for this?

Place: 125th St. and 7th Ave., New York City.

Robert Coleman, musician, 117 W. 140th St.

The rich whites are trying to keep down the poor white and colored workers for only one reason: that is to get more money.

Parker Bell, Chief Boat-swain's Mate, member of National Maritime Union.

Negroes made some advancements during the war. Now these groups want to return them to their prewar status because they fear social and economic competition.

Alvin Lee, grinder, 141 W. 151st St.

There is lots of race and class hatred, due to information that is half right, or propaganda.

John Kerr, sheet metal worker, unemployed veteran, 370 Manhattan Ave.

Politicians with big money with the sanction of the law institute these activities. The reason for this is more money for the big men.

H. A. Belfon, student, 2641 Seventh Ave.

Now that the war is over and with it the death of the FEPC and relaxation of the OPA, these fascist tendencies are permitted to come out. With the rise of men like Talmadge, Eastman, and Bilbo, it allows the capitalist power to enhance itself. Also a fascist state must find a scapegoat, as we witnessed with the Jews in Germany.

Billie Graham, beautician, 1990 Seventh Ave.

These organizations are afraid of the white and colored worker getting together because they may become too powerful. They also know that the Negro is tired of taking their abuses.

The above question was also asked at the AFL Labor Temple in Los Angeles, where the Ku Klux Klan and similar organizations have increased their activities since the end of the war. The Militant correspondent there informed us:

"All of the people at the Labor Temple, white and Negro, expressed their opposition to the Klan in no uncertain terms. All likewise refused to give their names and addresses.

"It was clear to us that fear of reprisal was responsible for this attitude. This, of course, belies the attitude of the Los Angeles Police Department which has dismissed the series of Klan acts of intimidation as 'juvenile pranks.' The organized labor movement knows that the Klan is not to be taken lightly, and this feeling reflected itself in the response to our question."

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Workers In Egypt Battle Repression

By T. Cliff

(The Militant is proud to here present the first of a two-part article on recent developments in Egypt by one of the best-informed and best-known authorities on the Middle East, T. Cliff. This first installment deals with economic struggles; next week's installment will deal with political struggles in Egypt.)

The end of the war witnessed a tremendous straining of the social antagonisms in all the Middle Eastern countries, especially Egypt.

Unemployment has increased to the figure of 300,000 in Egypt. This was caused by the cessation of all work in the military camps; the slowing down of industrial production for the army; the closing down of many industries due to lack of materials for industry (these last two factors resulting directly from the imperialist subjugation of Egypt). These same factors resulted in a cessation of overtime work which had previously to some degree compensated for the rise in the cost of living.

At the same time the local capitalists are preparing to meet foreign competition by cutting wages still further. In many industries in Egypt wages have already been cut 50 per cent in the last few months.

MILITANT SPIRIT

This attack of the capitalists has been met by the workers in a very militant spirit. One of the centers of the industrial unrest is the textile quarter of Cairo — Shubra el-Khaya — in which there are about 15,000 workers. The strikes of these workers during the last few months were so frequent that some of the employers could see no way out of their difficulties but by closing down and transferring their industries to another place in order to get rid of the militant workers.

But the workers were not so easily repulsed. In May they held a sit-down strike which developed into a barricade struggle. Throughout May and June the police arrested hundreds of workers and expelled the families of the arrested workers from the town, sending them back to the villages. Their attempts to keep the Shubra workers from meeting included an order prohibiting them from sitting in cafes.

As far as re-employing these workers is concerned, the Labor Department of the government declared that a pre-condition for this would be the signing of an agreement that the workers would not strike any more. The workers, whose wages before the strike had been very low (up to two shillings a day for unskilled workers; between two and six shillings for skilled workers) had no savings and their unions are of course very poor. Their sufferings during a strike are therefore extreme.

SIT-DOWN STRIKE

In the big Alexandria spinning mills of Filature Nationale d'Egypte, the employers tried to cut the wages. The delegation of the workers who came to negotiate was dismissed on June 25. As a result, 10,000 workers declared a sit-down and hunger strike which went on for a long time, after which many of the workers were arrested. The gravity of their conditions forced many to be transferred to the hospitals, which institutions refused to keep them when their lives became endangered through their continued hunger strike. (How the strike ended is still unknown.)

Another big strike broke out at the end of June in Kom Ombo

AMG Sells 35 Farben Plants

PARIS, July 25—General William H. Draper, chief of the economic division of the American Military Government in Germany, has announced the sale of 35 I. G. Farben plants to private enterprise, the newspaper *Le Monde* reported here on July 20.

Draper declared that the permission to sell was given by a commission composed of representatives of the "Big Four." According to the announcement, these factories are to be turned over to peacetime production, and no former employee of I. G. Farben will be permitted to purchase the factories.

Co., which employs 35,000 workers. To understand the terrible conditions of the workers here, we need but remember that when malaria attacked Egypt in 1944, 5,000 of the Kom Ombo workers died.

Another strike broke out in the Suez Co., which employs 3,000 workers. This company yields six million pounds in dividends every year, nearly half of which goes to Britain. This means that every worker on an average produces dividends of two thousand pounds. At the same time their average wages do not come up to 60 pounds a year. The strike encompassed the Suez Co. workers of Port Said, Ismailia and Suez.

Other strikes of big dimensions took place in the Salt and Soda Works and in the textile center of Mahalla el-Kubra. The latter has 26,000 workers and 3,000 employees. The workers there have become organized during the last few months. The result was a murderous attack by the police which killed three workers. A general strike of all the workers in the town was declared and thousands demonstrated.

The position of the unemployed has meanwhile become unbearable. The workers dismissed by the army received compensation of ten days' pay for every year of service. This means that every worker could hold on for a little while — at most two or three months. The Ministry of Social Affairs also made a grand gesture and granted two thousand pounds for the 300,000 unemployed — that is, about three cents per worker.

The results of the intensifying misery have been an increasing number of suicides; numbers of unemployed also break the law in order to go to prison to receive food and shelter. Outside of these individual cases, however, their spirit is still firm.

This was shown recently when police arrested 400 delegates elected to attend a congress of unemployed — and the congress nevertheless took place in hiding. The organization of unemployed is organically connected with the workers, being a part of the General Congress of Workers' Unions in Egypt.

Allied Powers Spar In Paris Arena For Position In Another World War

AMG Persecutes Trieste Strikers

The Manchester Guardian gives supplementary information about the strike movement in Trieste, recently reported in *The Militant*. According to this paper, the strike was called by the Federation of Julian Trade Unions which claims 40,000 members.

This organization was constituted after Tito's occupation of the town in May 1945, on the basis of factory committees elected by the workers. After Tito left Trieste, these committees continued to function and the unions grew.

Immediately after the calling of the general strike, the Allied Military Government declared it was illegal because its motive was political. The strike demands included removal of the fascists, police force, the expulsion of fascists and black market speculators from the administration, etc.

The AMG issued a warrant against 15 leaders of the strike committee, who went underground and, in the words of the *Manchester Guardian* correspondent, "continued their activity like they did under the German occupation."

After the strike the shipyard workers in Montefalcone entered into sharp conflict with the scabs who had refused to stop work. Here again the AMG officials intervened, and arrested a number of the strikers.

Over 400,000 Demonstrate In Calcutta General Strike

By Duncan Ferguson

The great city of Calcutta—approximately the size of Detroit—lay helpless last week before the mighty strength of the Indian working masses. For 24 hours, on July 29, the city was closed down tight

by a hartal, or general strike. Nearly half a million workers — about a fifth of the entire population of the city — joined in a vast march to Dalhousie Square in the center of the city, where an immense mass demonstration was held. The AP report states that "the marchers remained orderly." In view of the fact that between 400,000 and 500,000 workers were participating, this is a significant indication of the degree of organization and discipline among these marching masses.

But despite the orderliness of the demonstrating workers, five persons were injured by the police. All five were girls, members of a group picketing in front of the All-India radio station. The group was ordered to disband, and when the girls refused, a jeep was brutally driven into the crowd.

All business places and factories were closed down. No newspaper was issued in the city. In the European section, covering shop-owners covered their doors and windows with steel grills. All but the most essential municipal services were halted.

This vast general strike was called in sympathy with the strike of postal and telegraph workers throughout India who walked out July 10, crippling communication services, especially in the key cities of Bombay and Calcutta. The Calcutta strike followed just a week after a similar sympathy strike in Bombay, where on July 22 a quarter of a million workers in industry, commerce and transportation went on a 24-hour walkout, tying up the entire city.

A UP report of August 2 states that the 23-day postal strike has been settled. No information is given on the terms of settlement.

Correction

Last week's Militant incorrectly called the Revolutionary Workers Party the Australian section of the Fourth International. According to information at our disposal, there are two Trotskyist organizations in Australia. — The Editors.

THE STRUGGLE FOR NEGRO EQUALITY

By John Saunders and Albert Parker

introduction by CHARLES JACKSON

PIONEER PUBLISHERS 10c

Garbage For Food



A hungry Austrian worker forages through the refuse heap, hoping to find an edible scrap. Such sights are commonplace in famine-stricken countries. UNRRA shipments, always inadequate, are now expected to decline, with food speculators anticipating huge profits under the new price rises. —Federated Press.

Anti-Labor General Sent to N. Africa

PARIS, July 22—General Leclerc has been chosen by the French Tri-party Government to be Inspector-General of all armed forces in Tunisia, Algeria and Morocco.

This means French imperialism is reinforcing its organs of repression against the North African workers and peasants fighting for independence. The paper *L'Epoque* says cynically: "The General will find in Africa, where complex problems pose themselves, a field of action to his measure."

What this "measure" means has already been demonstrated by Leclerc's troops in Indo-China. There the most savage attacks have been carried out against the people. Houses have been burned, women and children tortured, whole villages razed to the ground in reprisal. Local Socialist papers have been destroyed, and Socialists attacked in the streets.

Leclerc's troops have also suggested carrying out measures against the French Communist Party. The June 18 attack on the Parisian headquarters of the French C.P. was carried out under the cry of "Vive Leclerc." The new Inspector-General has become the chief military representative of reaction.

Labor Votes Decline In Great Britain

(Special to The Militant)

LONDON, July 25—Two important by-elections have taken place in Britain and in both cases the Labor Party majority was considerably reduced. In Bexley, Kent it was reduced by 9,912; in Pontypool, South Wales by 5,194 votes.

The Tory vote was not increased greatly in either case, remaining largely what it was. This shows that the loss of votes for the Labor Party is due to abstention—or, as Transport House prefers to put it, "complacency."

It is difficult to determine whether the abstentions took place chiefly among the workers or the middle class.

Labor Under The Kremlin Regime

By Ernest Germain

On the eve of the war the question of "mobilizing" manpower became increasingly one of the burning problems of Stalinist economic policy. The constant expansion of the armed forces, the successive mass drafts following the outbreak of hostilities, depleted the factories and the collective farms of the bulk of adult manpower.

The "labor market" was in a permanent state of crisis. Women, children, the aged, the invalids, were drawn in successive waves into production in order to maintain, for better or for worse, the volume of industrial output. This was possible only through gravely lowering the productivity of labor while increasing the absolute number of those employed in industry and agriculture.

CONDITIONS WORSEN

When the bureaucracy ran up against limits to which it could exploit each individual physically, and the demographic limit of exploiting the Soviet population as a whole, the growing void, resulting from constant losses at the front, and from the growing needs of the expanding heavy industry, could be filled only by forced deportations, first the Mongols, next the Poles, and finally, prisoners of war and German workers.

This trend has now been climaxed by a systematic campaign in the Balkan countries to stimulate peasant immigration to Russia.

But the constant crisis of the Soviet "labor market" is not occurring in conditions of indus-

Four Marines Killed In North China

By Mike Cort

Wall Street claimed the lives of four more American boys last week. These boys had been put into the uniform of the United States Marines and sent to North China to protect American investments and help maintain the anti-democratic regime of Chiang Kai-shek.

On July 29 a Marine convoy, traveling from Tientsin to Peiping, was ambushed by Chinese peasant-soldiers and the four Marines killed. Also killed were an undetermined number of Chinese.

The convoy consisted of 25 heavily armed vehicles, and just outside of Tungcho came upon what the *N. Y. Times* correspondent Benjamin Wells described as a "Communist road block." As the convoy slowed, Chinese soldiers appeared out of the corn fields which surrounded the block and the battle began. After casualties had mounted on both sides, a truce was arranged and the American forces were allowed to proceed to Peiping with their dead and wounded.

When pressed for an opinion as to the reason for the Chinese attack, a high Marine officer in Peiping stated that he could think of none at all—unless it might be the "incident" which had occurred the day before. That "incident" was the case of a Marine officer driving into "hostile" territory and being challenged by a Chinese sentry. He shot the sentry and proceeded.

Demonstrations Win Pay Rise For Militant French Workers

Faced with strikes and demonstrations of ever increasing scope and militancy, the French Cabinet reluctantly voted on July 31 to grant the demands of the CGT (General Confederation of Labor) for a general wage boost of 25 per cent. But even as it made this concession to the workers, the Cabinet took steps to curtail and limit the benefits.

First, the 25 per cent increase is confined to employees of the government, while employees of private industry are to receive only 18 per cent. Second, much of the benefit of the new wage scales was immediately nullified by increased prices on bread, gas, electricity and transportation.

The government's hand was forced by strikes and demonstrations which exploded throughout July as the workers became caught in the rack and wheel of inflationary prices and low wages. Vanguard of the strikers was the Federation of Postal Workers, which paralyzed communications in Paris for ten hours prior to the Cabinet vote.

On July 11 Representative James A. Roe, Democrat of New York, observed in Congress, "It has been said that we are heading straight for World War III within 10 years and that we cannot miss. This is definitely true."

The opening rounds of the Paris "Peace" Conference confirm the grim observation of this Wall Street politician.

The representatives of the Big Four are jockeying for the best positions in World War III — a war launched on the Soviet Union by Anglo-American imperialism.

The squabbles in the first days were nothing but shadow-boxing. Both Byrnes and Molotov agreed to permit the press to attend the sessions. Why shouldn't they? They had already agreed to leave out the main questions concerning atomic energy and the fate of Germany and Austria. They had already reached a deal on the main points of secondary questions.

The so-called "little" nations put on a preliminary bout over voting procedure. But it was a rigged fight. The Big Four had bound themselves to stick by agreements already made at the Conference of Foreign Ministers. On top of this, the "little" nations revolve in the orbits of the big powers. They move according to courses determined at Washington, London, Paris or Moscow. Even if voting procedure had been juggled to give the "little" nations a bigger voice, last word would still remain with the Big Four. They are bound only to "take into account" the "recommendations" of the Conference.

GREAT ISSUES EXCLUDED

The purse at stake in this particular bout is mainly the boundary of Soviet influence. The Kremlin wants exclusive influence in Europe east of a line drawn from Stettin on the Baltic to Trieste on the Adriatic. Anglo-American imperialism seeks to undermine this influence through economic pen-

etration in the lands bordering the Danube river.

The great issues that must be settled at the outset if the world is to have peace, were deliberately excluded from the Conference. The fate of Europe hinges on what happens to its industrial heart — Germany. Shall the German people be permitted to choose their own form of government? But the question of Germany is not even on the agenda.

Peace is impossible so long as Europe remains chopped up in a score of tiny countries walled from each other by economic and state barriers. The unification of Europe will not be discussed at Paris. On the contrary the Anglo-American imperialists are following a calculated policy of dividing Europe into smaller segments than ever.

How impossible world peace is without freeing the colonial peoples from imperialist despotism is being demonstrated daily right while the diplomats grind out their speeches at the Conference table. China is wracked by a terrible civil war. Fresh fighting was reported in Indo-China where the heroic Annamese people are struggling for freedom from French imperialism. Java still seethes. Violence is rife in Palestine. Unrest is rocking governments throughout Latin America. The mighty subcontinent of India is torn with tremendous strikes as the teeming millions there seek freedom from Britain. The Paris meeting of despots naturally, is concerned only about how to stay in the saddle in the colonial lands.

ATOMIC ENERGY EXCLUDED

The question of the development of atomic energy was likewise deliberately excluded from the parley. Yet this is one of key questions now confronting mankind. In the hands of Wall Street atomic energy is being turned almost exclusively into destructive channels. The U.S. armed forces are experimenting with ocean-spanning rockets, developing germs capable of wiping out whole nations, planning war on a scale that would wipe out all the earth's major cities in the first day of World War III. While the Conference meets, Washington continues day and night manufacture of atomic bombs!

The Conference began its sessions July 29. Four days before, on July 25, Washington touched off atomic bomb No. 5 at Bikini. A column of water 2,000 feet in diameter shot up through the anchored guinea-pig fleet 5,000 feet into the air. That explosion sheds more light on the real issue now facing the workers of the world than all the "peace" talk at Paris. Either the workers must brush aside the capitalist rulers and take power or civilization will go down in an atomic war. The Paris "Peace" Conference is nothing but one of the milestones on the road to that war.

International Notes

Palestine

Palestine, Britain's pawn in the struggle for power in the Middle East, now faces partition. The Anglo-American Cabinet Committee reported out the partition plan on July 25, a plan which would divide the country into Jewish and Arab provinces, but would give real autonomy to neither group.

Under the proposed plan the Jews would receive 15 per cent of the country, Britain would retain approximately 40 per cent for herself, the rest would go to the Arabs. The Jews and Arabs would have nominal autonomy in their own provinces but the real power would rest in the British-dominated central government.

The British retain for themselves control of defense, foreign relations, the police, prisons, the courts, railway and port facilities, the postoffice, the telephone and telegraph systems, customs, excise taxes, civil aviation and broadcasting. Britain also retains final authority over immigration.

While the provinces would have their own assemblies, the central government would appoint speakers without whose approval no bill could become law. Moreover, the British High Commissioner would have power to supersede any provincial government.

Japan

If any democracy is being exported to Japan, the children who toil in the Japanese silk mills are unaware of it, for they remain today what they have been for decades past — slaves. Christian Science Monitor correspondent Gordon Walker reported on July 19 that the American military regime has made no move to break the grip of the big Japanese industrialists on their supply of child slave labor.

Impoverished peasants still sign slave contracts, selling their 14 year old daughters. The girls live in filthy dormitories and eat dirty rice which is often mixed with silk worms. They are permitted to leave the factory premises only on special occasions and then only for two hour periods. Should they escape, they are captured by the police and returned to the dormitory for punishment.

Their job is to separate silk from the cocoons in water at a temperature of 180 degrees. They work 10 hours a day and six days a week, and receive a weekly wage of 30 yen (\$3).

Today there are approximately 200,000 girls working under these conditions of involuntary servitude. Their appreciation of the "democracy" brought by MacArthur must therefore necessarily be limited.

made unauthorized departure from the factory punishable by two months' imprisonment. At the same time, this decree made all "labor delinquencies" felonies, under the jurisdiction of a single judge, outside of the province of normally functioning courts, and subject to prosecution within five days of the commission of the "delinquency."

A July 17, 1940 decree and another of July 24 set severe penalties for directors who failed to press charges against "delinquents" and judges who proved too "indulgent." Other and even harsher decrees followed.

In the fall of 1940, the Soviet press published a flood of letters from women of the privileged layers, demanding that these decrees also be extended to servants. Nothing can better characterize the monstrous degeneracy of Soviet society—a society calling itself "socialist"—than demands of privileged female parasites that domestic slaves be "punished" for coming late, leaving their jobs, etc.

The decrees of July 12 and 27, 1940 increased the legal workday. At the same time the number of legal holidays and half-days was cut to less than half. The way in which the bureaucracy "fought" an inflation resulting from the mounting quantity of currency in face of the scarcity of consumers' goods was: reducing hourly wages in order to keep the nominal wage at the same level, despite longer hours; introducing night work,

and so on. Finally, we know that since October 1940 compulsory labor has been introduced for all youngsters between the ages of 14 to 17.

When the war finally ended, the manpower situation in the USSR was lamentable. An American journalist, whose tour covered thousands of collective farms, did not find more than five per cent of male labor. It is estimated that nine million industrial and tractor station workers were killed or deported during the war.

POST-WAR CHANGES

However, while the manpower crisis remains as acute as during the war, the conditions under which it now manifests itself have drastically changed. With consumption slowly returning to normal levels, the different industries show a tendency to "compete" for labor, by granting bonuses and special advantages. The resistance of the workers increases.

Contact with superior conditions in the Soviet occupation zone, where in some instances the workers have their own freely-elected factory committees, their own "wall" newspapers containing free criticism, where the police terror is not comparable to that which reigns in Russia—all this increases the will of Soviet proletarians to fight for better living conditions. As a result of their pressure, a number of laws passed in 1940 have been abolished. For ex-

ample, there has been abrogated a particularly odious decree which made obligatory work books, where a record was kept of all "disciplinary penalties" (tardiness, etc.). An accumulation of these penalties incurred an automatic withdrawal of ration cards and lodging permits.

A tragic incident recently reported in the Swiss press shows both the still prevailing and terrible penury of workers and the growing pressure of the masses, which forces the government to grant unparalleled "concessions."

As a matter of fact, for the first time in 20 years, the administration of a Ministry was openly discussed in the columns of *Pravda*, and meetings of workers, housewives and trade unionists were held in order to collectively debate the possibility of improving the situation through popular initiative. Involved was the Ministry in charge of manufacturing artificial limbs for Red Army veterans. These amputees number millions, and industry needs them urgently. Yet, the production figures of artificial limbs remains more than 50 per cent below the plan, and their quality is so poor that they soon render the amputee incapable of performing any work whatever. It is characteristic that this discussion seemed to proceed with real freedom; that it was provoked by discontent made public by *Pravda*, and that it concluded in neither the removal nor the imprisonment of the Minister in question.

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Only the world revolution can save the USSR for socialism. But the world revolution carries with it the inescapable blotting out of the Kremlin oligarchy.

—Leon Trotsky

Labor Solidarity

We salute the splendid demonstration of labor solidarity in Detroit last week, following the dangerous arson attack made by vigilante terrorists upon the Socialist Workers Party headquarters. Prominent spokesmen of the trade union movement, both CIO and AFL, as well as representatives of Negro and other progressive groups, courageously came forward to condemn the terroristic outrage and defend the rights of the Trotskyists. They correctly scored this assault as an attack upon the whole labor movement.

These labor leaders frankly state that they do not agree with the political program of the Trotskyists. But they vigorously defend the rights of a minority party to freely express its ideas and opinions.

In a similar action, over two years ago, the labor movement rallied behind the 18 CIO and Socialist Workers Party leaders who were imprisoned under the Smith "Gag" Act for their revolutionary socialist opinions. Labor organizations, including the CIO, AFL, Railroad Brotherhoods and many progressive groups, representing over 5,000,000 workers, demanded that the Trotskyists be freed. They demanded an end to the suppression of civil liberties.

In both cases, this united labor front challenged Big Business, prime instigator of these acts of suppression and violence. Today the Wall Street rulers are alarmed and thwarted by the inspiring examples of labor solidarity in strikes and on the picket lines. Despite their efforts to divide the Negroes and whites, to divide the veterans and civilian workers, they see instead a growing movement of solidarity. Most outspoken proponent of this labor unity is the Socialist Workers Party.

Thus, all over the country, Big Business is encouraging, building and utilizing fascist gangs to try to terrorize the workers into submission; to try to divide and weaken the labor movement. The arson blaze in Detroit is another attempt to intimidate the most militant section of the labor movement. This is the familiar pattern followed by Hitler; to strike at the minority races and vanguard political parties first, before moving in to crush the whole labor movement.

But the Detroit labor movement recognized this sinister threat to its own interests. Detroit thus sets before the whole country a vivid example of how to challenge Wall Street's plot to rule through intimidation and terror. It sets an example of how to defend the democratic rights of minority groups. Above all, it points the way for protecting the organized power of the whole labor movement.

C. P. Colonial Policy

Over the expulsion of Earl Browder, many rank and filers in the Communist (Stalinist) Party hoped their leadership would really return to the principles of Marx and Lenin. Let these rank and filers study the August 2 *Daily Worker* with care. On the editorial page is an article that should open their eyes. For this article proves that under Foster the old policy of supporting imperialism still continues to guide Stalinist officialdom.

The article approvingly quotes a French Stalinist member of Parliament, Henri Lozeray, who brazenly supports the colonial rule of imperialist France. "The Communist Party, which has so often denounced French colonial policy," says the opening paragraph of the article, "gives its full support to a policy of rational and bold development, with the condition that this development is made in the interests of the native population."

This position is directly opposed to that of the Communist International in the days of Lenin and Trotsky. The Comintern in those days explained that the imperialist powers subjugated the colonial peoples for no other reason but to exploit them, plunder their resources, and reduce them to famine levels for the sake of super-profits. One of the conditions for entry into the Communist International, laid down at the Second Congress in 1920, reads as follows:

"On the question of colonies and oppressed nationalities, an especially distinct and clear line of conduct is necessary in the case of parties in countries where the bourgeoisie possess colonies or oppresses other nationalities. All parties belonging to the Third International shall be in duty bound to denounce without

reservation the colonial policy of their respective imperialists, and to support, not in words only, but in deed, the movement for colonial independence. They must demand the withdrawal of their imperialists from such colonies, cultivate among the workmen of their own country a genuine fraternal attitude towards the working population of the colonies and oppressed nationalities, and conduct a systematic propaganda in their own army against every semblance of oppression of the colonial population."

But the *Daily Worker* supports the French colonial despots! It asks only that they be good despots and rule for the benefit of the oppressed—as if all despots since time began have not claimed their rule was beneficial to the subjugated masses!

Clearly in Lenin's day Henri Lozeray would have been expelled forthwith from the party and the *Daily Worker* would have been placed on trial for reprinting his vile speech.

Arms Profiteers

During the war, Wall Street turned a flood of propaganda on the workers and soldiers to incite them against each other. Soldiers were told the lie that defective equipment and shortages of supplies were due to strikers. Workers over here, tolling seven days a week for frozen wages, read big press displays of letters, supposedly from soldiers, full of anti-labor slander and prejudice.

But while this propaganda was being spread, Big Business was heaping up blood-stained billions. Behind the veil of patriotic propaganda, the economic and political rulers of America pursued but one real aim—pulling up profits. And no means were too vile and crooked in achieving this sordid end.

Those means did not, of course, exclude manufacture and shipment of defective equipment, falsification of inspection records and fraudulent violation of specifications. How many American boys died from prematurely exploding shells, faulty aircraft structure and materials, communications wire that snapped at crucial moments, will never be known.

But it is safe to say that the big war corporations, who "cut corners" to squeeze out the last possible penny of profits, took the lives of thousands of American soldiers, sailors and airmen.

When an Army general was so incautious as to admit that a "few" casualties had resulted from defective mortar shells, scores of veterans began writing to the Committee giving detailed eye-witness evidence of startling death and injury tolls on every front.

Who were the saboteurs during the war? Who, according to their own laws, ought to be put up against a wall and shot? It is the very capitalist class that rules this country—the handful of financiers and industrialists who instigated, conducted and profited from the war. All—all of them—are guilty!

The war corporation owners—the biggest and "most respected" of them—were all engaged in a gigantic swindle with the connivance of the very highest government and military officials. They stole "untold billions" in war profits, as U. S. Comptroller General Warren himself has testified.

Much of what has come out in the Senate hearings was made public long ago in the columns of *The Militant*. The Socialist Workers Party, in October, 1943, issued a pamphlet, "War-time Crimes of Big Business." It gave detailed and documented evidence of the very practices over which the Washington politicians now profess to be "shocked" and "startled."

It is not the facts themselves which "startle" these capitalist politicians, but that the facts are beginning to come to light. For the members of the Senate committee, every government official and congressman, were a party to these crimes. They either connived in them, condoned them or kept silence.

CIO Leaders Retreat

Just prior to the passage of the OPA price "decontrol" bill, the CIO leaders correctly asserted that the workers "need an immediate wage raise."

Today, these same union leaders have retreated under the pressure of the employers and government and have discarded even the pretense of a struggle for higher wages. They are substituting a campaign of letters and petitions to Congress and the ineffective "buyers' strike" as the sole program to combat rising prices.

What has changed in the past two weeks to justify such a retreat on the wage front? Not a thing. Prices are going up by leaps and bounds—with the legal sanction of an OPA that the union leaders themselves admit is a fraud.

Since 1942, the union leaders have been clamoring for a "rollback of prices." Bitter experience throughout the war and in the past year of zooming inflation has amply demonstrated the bankruptcy of trying to "control" prices through the agency of the capitalist government.

But that, in effect, is what the CIO leaders propose once more. And once more the workers are going to face bitter disillusion if they follow such a policy.

The real reason for abandoning the wage fight is the unwillingness of the union leaders to conduct a genuinely militant mass struggle. They suffer from wretched timidity and cowardice. They are afraid to fight.

But there is no other effective means of combating the inflationary drive of the Big Business profiteers than through a wage struggle. That struggle should have as its principal objective the inclusion in all union contracts of the sliding scale of wages, based on a fixed minimum, to rise with every rise in the cost of living.

The only demands which will put a brake on the profiteers and price-gougers are: Reopen all wage contracts!

For the sliding scale of wages!



"Democratic rights — bah! They see a little of the world and come back with a lot of foreign ideas!"

Workers' BOOKSHELF

THE FATE OF WRITING IN AMERICA, by James T. Farrell, 1946. New Directions, 32 pp., 25 cents.

Valuable information is contained in this pamphlet by one of the best known contemporary American novelists. For the author analyzes one of the newest extensions of capitalist monopoly — the literary field. Big Business in the publishing field grew up during the war, when vast quantities of books were demanded not only by the armed forces, but by the pleasure-limited, stay-at-home multitudes.

Out of this demand, came the 25 cent editions. What made this literary business profitable was not the quality of the books, nor the real needs of the masses, but the huge press runs of each edition, numbering hundreds of thousands. Today four major book companies with their profitable pocket-size editions dominate the publishing industry.

Already, the author points out, writers are succumbing in the poisonous embrace of commercialized "culture." The menace to literary honesty and integrity grows in proportion as the concentration grows. Today Wall Street hovers over the whole literary field and may soon decide to monopolize it completely. "If such a thing happens, Wall Street control will mean that Money—pure Money, becomes the boss," warns the author. This will mean that the world of books will be completely prostituted to the Dollar Kings, like radio and Hollywood.

Farrell's conclusion, however, fails to square with his analysis. "Gloomy prophets and disturbed writers are predicting that in the future it will be impossible for writers to retain any integrity."

He writes, Farrell is more hopeful. Although he shies away from making any "definite answers," Farrell does conclude with a personal appeal to the literary men.

"The writer is an active, not a passive agent in this situation," he emphasizes. After proving how impossible it is to beat the game with the Wall Street profit system, he simply appeals to the writers to place their literary integrity above the "rewards of writing for the market." For most writers this means — to stop writing, or starve.

"The real starting point of an analysis such as this one must be human needs," Farrell writes. But that will be true only under a socialist society. Today Farrell and other writers live under the system of monopoly capitalism.

Prostitution of all types is an integral part of this system. Thus, the real starting point, the key question, is the political question, which Farrell writes is "outside the boundaries" of his article. This key question, however, will not only determine the fate of writing in America, but indeed, the fate of humanity itself.

Reviewed by Larissa Reed

MANHATTAN TRANSFER, by John Dos Passos, Penguin Books, 1946, 372 pp., 25 cents.

The bitter disillusionment that followed World War I produced many writers who told the sordid truth about the life they saw. One of the most powerful was John Dos Passos.

Manhattan Transfer, which first appeared over 20 years ago, exposes the misery and corruption of life under capitalism. It is a cross-section of New York City from pre-World War I days

to the mid-20s. Its pages are eloquent of the suffering of men and women whose lives were blasted by war and ground to dust by the depression which followed.

Jimmy Herf, intellectual son of a wealthy family, is unable to stomach the parasitic life of his class. He becomes a newspaper reporter, later goes to Europe as a Red Cross publicity man. He sees all that is rotten in the economic system which finally destroys his own happiness.

Jimmy is drawn to the radical movement, but never becomes a part of it. Ellen, his beautiful actress wife, weary of insecurity, finally leaves him to pursue her own career, and marry a successful lawyer whom she detests.

In the gray pattern of the story are woven the pathetic lives of a young garment-worker, horribly burned in a sweatshop fire; and Bud Korpenning, the farm lad who never had a decent job. Congo Jake, who becomes a bootlegger, is one of the few who "find a place" in the postwar world.

Jimmy himself finally wanders off, with no place to go and nothing to do. Like many intellectuals today, he could not weather the terrible reaction.

Yet the story has bright flashes of hope: the news of the 1917 October Revolution in Russia; the devotion of communist leaders in the workers' strikes; the defiant stand of a handful of American revolutionaries who sing *The Internationale* as their comrades are deported by Wall Street's government.

The tersely written story is fresh and timely today, against the background of the second imperialist slaughter and the menace of a third.

Reviewed by Ruth Benson

Congressmen At Work

Pity The Poor Landlords

Two of the most able representatives of the insurance trust are Senators Albert W. Hawkes and H. Alexander Smith, both Republicans of New Jersey. Smith is running for re-election this year. That makes it necessary for him to speak cautiously. On June 15 he did openly defend the interests of the Prudential Insurance Co., but generally Senator Hawkes carries the ball.

It was Hawkes who proposed on July 11 that rents should be boosted immediately by five per cent, boosted another five per cent on November 30, and still another five per cent next March 31.

Hawkes explained that "Life insurance companies are tremendously interested in rental properties. They have invested millions of dollars in them." Naturally they want rents jacked up. "As November approaches, the heating program begins and the landlords' expenses go up. No group of people in our American life, so far as I know, have been left tied to the post . . . in the way that the landlord owners of dwelling houses rented for living purposes have been."

Hawkes felt that this unfairness to the landlords was not due to the wishes of the tenants: "I believe that those who make the political poison argument overestimate the unfairness of the tenant. I think that many tenants will readily acknowledge that a limited increase in rents is fair."

Having presented the insurance companies' view of what a fair-minded tenant thinks about rents, Hawkes attacked his col-



am sympathetic with the Senator's presentation of the conditions in which life insurance companies may find themselves in connection with their investments in rental properties."

"A great injustice has been done," said Senator E. H. Moore of Oklahoma, another Republican.

"There will be found many landlords who will not raise rents at all if it is not necessary," continued Hawkes. " . . . overall, they are a pretty fine group of people." Then he explained that "the life insurance companies throughout the United States" have got to keep up their rate of profit if they want to retain their "financial stability." "This is very important," he pointed out " . . . as it happens to know."

Hawkes defended landlords with all the skill of a high-paid lawyer working on the tear glands of a jury: "Many people seem to think that landlords are all wealthy barons who are sapping the lifeblood out of the people. The truth of the matter is that . . . there are hundreds of thousands, probably millions, of small landlords, consisting of widows and orphans and aged people."

Hawkes admitted that OPA had granted 780,000 rent boosts, but that wasn't enough in his opinion: "Remember that the many widows of professors and educators, some widows of former representatives of the people in government, the widows and orphans of many of our best citizens look to the renting business as their means of livelihood." That plea won the votes of 14 Senators.

FIRST MONTH AT TROTSKY SCHOOL

By Myra Tanner Weiss

A new institution in the Socialist Workers Party has been born, a university for revolutionary workers. The Trotsky School has started its second month at the Midwest Vacation School on Little Pleasant Lake in Michigan.

No need is more urgent today than the training of capable leaders for the revolutionary fight against American capitalism. The leaders of the American working class must have a scientific understanding of the basic economic and social laws which form and transform society. But how

MYRA TANNER WEISS

is this scientific knowledge to be gained? The trade unionist, the party organizer, those who devote their days and nights to our movement have at best limited time for theoretical study.

The Socialist Workers Party resolved to meet this need by boldly undertaking the immense task of organizing the Trotsky School. To begin the project, seven leading party members and trade unionists were selected from various parts of the country on the basis of their abilities and devotion tested in the class struggle. These seven are now able to devote their full time to study. They are relieved of all party assignments for a six month period. The Trotsky School extends them economic aid to make this period of intensive education possible.

THE SEVEN STUDENTS

Who are these seven students? One is a leading militant in the UAW-CIO from Detroit. He has a wife and child whom he must support. For the past ten years in addition to long hours of work in the factory, with other hours given to union activity, he has devoted himself to building the SWP. He typifies what one worker observed about our Party members: "These Trotskyists not only fight the boss all day, they then go home at night to study about it."

Thanks to the Trotsky School, it has become possible for this auto worker to have six uninterrupted months for learning. He is already a capable and experienced leader. But the Trotsky School will better prepare him for the difficult problems that arise in the labor movement. And he in turn will be better able to teach his fellow-workers all he has learned.

Another student here is also a fighter in the UAW-CIO, a Negro worker, with a wife and two children. His formal education was limited to grade-school. The eagerness with which he tackles the study of Marx's *Capital* is truly inspiring. He works harder and longer than any of us.

A third student is a maritime worker from New York with long years of political and trade union activity behind him. His rich experience off-shore and in port will be supplemented now with an advance in theory.

Also from New York comes a Negro veteran whose whole life has been one of double exploitation as a colored worker in both the North and the South. Then the capitalist government gave him four years in their vicious Jim Crow army. Now he is learning about the basic source of this oppression and how to end it once and for all.

From Youngstown, Ohio, another veteran who fought all the way from North Africa to Germany, has come to the Trotsky School. Before he returns to the workers' struggle he will be able to get the Marxist training so indispensable for the fight against imperialist aims and methods.

There is a young Negro comrade who has worked hard and responsibly as one of the leaders of the Toledo, Ohio branch. Assimilating now the basic and general problems of the class struggle, he can become even more effective in his chosen life work of building the party that will liberate the entire working class.

Then the Local in Los Angeles where I have worked as organizer, has given me the opportunity to study in the Trotsky School.

DAILY SCHEDULE

Our daily schedule is quite varied. Some of us teach classes in the Midwest School every morning. At two in the afternoon, to aid our study of *Capital*, we hold our own discussion group for several hours under the guidance of our "Dean," William F. Warde. From our study of this book in which Karl Marx analyzed the economic system in which we live, we learn the basic laws that find their expression in the terrible depressions, crises, and wars that are tearing apart the obsolete capitalist system.

The rest of the afternoon we spend studying until dinner time in a farm house donated for the use of the Trotsky School students. Occasionally, we permit ourselves the luxury of a swim with the vacationers. Our evenings are spent studying American history, Marxist philosophy or any other subject concerning the labor and political movement in which we are individually interested.

At the end of the first six months a new group of SWP comrades will be assigned to a similar course of full-time study. By offering leading workers throughout the country this opportunity for gaining a theoretical understanding of the class struggle, the Trotsky School is making an important contribution to the advancement of the revolutionary socialist movement.

A New Pamphlet JUST OUT!
Only Victorious Socialist Revolutions Can Prevent The Third World War!

—the historic MANIFESTO of the Fourth International, April 1946
—first printed in *The Militant* of May 11 and now issued in convenient pamphlet form

32 Pages

10 Cents

PIONEER PUBLISHERS



116 University Place, N. Y. 3, N. Y.

WORKERS' FORUM

The Workers' Forum columns are open to the opinions of the readers of "The Militant". Letters are welcome on any subject of interest to the workers. Keep them short and include your name and address. Indicate if you do not want your name printed.

Merchant Seaman Tells About Fight To Free Philippines

Editor:

On July 4 I watched the spectacle here in Manila when the Philippines were granted their "independence." In Manila itself a person might be misled by the enthusiasm of the commercial middle class and the innumerable impoverished white collar workers.

A lot of them are duped by Emanuel Roxas who stands for gratitude to American imperialism. Independence so far as he and his followers are concerned is only camouflage. The islands will still remain in the grip of American imperialism. Maybe it will not be so easy to keep up the illusion as the terrific inflation and misery gets worse.

A look at the provinces reveals a more serious picture. The Philippines are still primarily agrarian. The peasants and outlawed guerrilla fighters who resisted Japanese occupation, are loosely organized and still armed.

The Hukbalahaps are their main organization. These guerrilla fighters who suffered so long under U. S. rule and then under the Japanese armies, mean business when they talk about independence. Already, only a few days after the cheering and shouting died down in Manila, bloody clashes and skirmishes have occurred between the "Huks" and Philippine M.P. detachments!

Reading about the fighting in the local press, you can't help but think of Zapata and the heroic struggle of the Mexican campesinos for land and freedom.

In the great panorama of world events the struggle here may seem of minor importance, but the American workers have a lot to win by helping the Filipinos achieve freedom since Wall Street is our common enemy.

The Manila papers have begun a campaign of vicious slander against the Huks. That's undoubtedly to cover up the dirty business of shooting them down.

B. T.

Manila, Philippines

Los Angeles Workers Defend Distributor Of "The Militant"

Editor:

The attitude of workers in a union is often a barometer of the influence of the Socialist Workers Party. A vivid example how this influence is growing, took place a few days ago outside the Los Angeles CIO union hall, which has hitherto been a Stalinist stronghold.

A member of the Socialist Youth Club was distributing The Militant. A Stalinist came up



and asked for the paper, which was cheerfully given to him. He rolled up the paper and slapped the young distributor across the face with it.

Immediately two workers ran out of a nearby cafeteria, defended this young comrade and told the Stalinist they would not tolerate these tactics. They stated further that they preferred The Militant to the People's World (Stalinist West Coast paper) because The Militant is the only paper which tells the truth.

The Stalinist, having nothing to say, sullenly walked away. Incidents like this are a tribute to the correctness of the policy of The Militant and Socialist Workers Party.

Sam Stern
Los Angeles

Police Helpless In Detroit Rally

Editor:

At the OPA rally in Detroit July 16, we distributed 1,200 copies of The Militant, and sold 34 copies of the pamphlet American Workers Need A Labor Party.

Cadillac Square was really jammed during the rally. Police were telling people to move, and shoving us away from buildings. They even blocked off sections of streets so people couldn't get to the demonstration in the Square.

When one cop laid his hand on my shoulder, trying to ease me away from a window, two workers walked up to him and said, "What's the matter, cop, you having trouble?" The cop then left me alone. I guess he didn't want to buck that huge demonstration!

E. Brent
Detroit, Mich.

'Militant' Popular In Newark

Editor:

Here in Newark we have had some experiences recently that show the growing popularity of The Militant in workers' neighborhoods.

One woman whose husband had taken out a subscription to The Militant told us he had left her, and that she wanted a subscription for herself because she would like to read the paper. Two of her friends who are Militant subscribers had told her that The Militant speaks up for the working people.

A comrade visiting subscribers to obtain subscription renewals, stopped in a restaurant in the neighborhood. While he was getting his coffee, he asked the man next to him about subscribing. The man replied, "Oh, I've been getting this paper every week for quite a while. It's a good paper. I like it fine."

We know that these experiences are probably duplicated all over the country in neighborhoods where Militant subscriptions have been sold. They make us realize that The Militant is becoming accepted and widely read in working class neighborhoods.

Dorothy Lessing
Newark, N. J.

San Diego Workers Eagerly Subscribe

Editor:

In San Diego we have been distributing The Militant at housing projects, then following-up the next week by visiting these homes for subscriptions. This has proved very fruitful. On July 21, we obtained the following results in one of these housing projects: six 6-month subs, two 1-year subs, promises of six additional subscriptions, and sales of \$1.30 worth of Pioneer pamphlets.

Louise Leslie
San Diego, Calif.

**BOSTON
PICNIC
at Houghton's Pond
Sunday, August 18
Meet at Manhattan Square
at 11 A. M.
Swimming, Games,
Refreshments
Proceeds to
American Comm. for
European Workers' Relief**

**LOS ANGELES
Militant Workers' Forum
Aug. 23—Issues in California Election
466 East Vernon**

GI Amputees Demand Autos



These amputees are part of a group of 70 who called on Congress demanding that the government provide cars for servicemen who have lost their legs. Their pressure plus that of the union movement succeeded in getting legislation adopted just before Congress adjourned.

(Federated Pictures)

Reader Continues Sub Work While Laid Up In Hospital

(The following is a letter from Goldy Goldman, active member of the Socialist Workers Party in Philadelphia, now recovering from a serious operation.—The Editors.)

Before my recent trip to the hospital, it had not occurred to me that I would be able to do party work. As it has turned out, I have an excellent list of contacts—from the porters, wall cleaners, nurses aid, a few patients, a doctor and a research chemist.

The Militant and Charles Jackson's pamphlet ("A Practical Program to Kill Jim Crow") were circulated so well through the hospital that one of the graduate nurses, sympathetic to my "attitude," reported that a nurse had complained about my "spreading Communist ideas and literature." How do you do it—sick in bed? So I explained that I read The Militant and invariably somebody asked for it.

One of the doctors was very busy on a case history report of a new patient and in the midst he stopped for a full ten minutes to inquire about our party, our paper and our program!

A colored patient, who subscribed to The Militant, told me that the women in the ward had spoken highly of my respect for the truth and what I believed in.

And before I walked out of the hospital I met a technician who was nervously awaiting his wife's return from surgery. As I sat there assuring him that all would be well, and basing my optimism upon the great strides that medicine has made, a discussion opened up on penicillin, streptomycin and then switched into socialized medicine and the great future possible for man if only society were reorganized. Honestly, when I told him I was a

Pioneer Notes

Vacationers returning from Mid-West Vacation School and Camp at Grass Lake, Michigan, give glowing reports of the use to which Pioneer literature and Marxist-Leninist classics are being put at the school, not only in the regular educational classes but in the general stimulation of reading and studying.

"Even cottagers and resorters from the area around the camp are buying literature and taking out subscriptions to The Militant," reports Mili Adams. "The Mid-West clubhouse and office are always open to visitors, day and night. Neighbors and tourists stroll in to dance or play shuffleboard. Next thing they are engaged in discussion of political questions, economics, the labor movement and racial questions. That leads to inspecting the library and bookstore. Sales usually result."

By popular demand the camp has been extended for two weeks, to Sept. 2. Oscar Coover, Mid-West manager, reports sales apparently will be more steady throughout this season than last year. He has already sent two substantial payments on Pioneer literature sales.

Youth Group Activities

NEW YORK. — For information on the Trotskyist Youth Group send name and address to 116 University Place, N. Y. 3, N. Y.

Every Sunday: Beach Party at Brighton Beach between Bay 7-8 (take BMT to Ocean Pkwy).

Open Forum: Every Friday, 8 p.m., at 116 University Place. Dancing, refreshments follow.

Brooklyn: Class on "Struggle for Negro Equality." Instructor: Harry Robinson. Every Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. at Brooklyn headquarters, SWP, 635 Fulton Street. Dancing, refreshments.

Queens — Open forums every Wednesday at Odd Fellows Temple, 160th St. and 90th Ave., 8 p.m.

PHILADELPHIA. — Youth Forums held every Saturday, 8 p.m. 1303-05 W. Girard, 2nd floor.

LOS ANGELES. — Socialist Youth Club meets every Thursday, 8 p.m., at SWP headquarters, 316½ W. Pico Blvd. Educational by Youth and SWP speakers.

Subscribe to "Young Militant," published semi-monthly, for truth of youth's struggles.

Watch this column for further announcements of youth activities.

Flint Sends C. E. Wilson A Token Of Appreciation

Clifford F. Rodabaugh, of 922 Scott street, doesn't believe he got enough money as a vacation check from General Motors Corporation, but he does believe in going right to the top with his complaint.

Rodabaugh, a World War II veteran who had worked at Buick Motor Division for 11 years before entering the service, sent his check for \$6.66 to C. E. Wilson, president of General Motors Corporation, with instructions for the Corporation head to "take your family on a nice, pleasant vacation."

The letter which accompanied the check, a self-explanatory item, was as follows:

"Enclosed please find vacation pay check for \$6.66.

"This is in appreciation for services rendered to the veterans of World War II, of which I am proud to say I am one.

"My GI pay was ample for my needs as I was not where I could spend much, and Uncle Sam paid for my food. The Japs gave us our entertainment. Later, when I was hospitalized for one year for injuries received during one of our 'shows,' I appreciated the small pocket edition

magazines sent to me (both of them)."

"So, Mr. Wilson, because we are just one big happy family in GM, and because I just recently had my vacation traveling all over the beautiful tropical islands, I want you to accept my check and take your family on a nice pleasant vacation."

"Some of my buddies would send theirs also, but due to late arrival back from overseas, they did not receive any. But, Mr. Wilson, if you run short, just notify me and I am sure there are several hundred ex-GIs, like myself, who want you to enjoy yourself and will send you their checks."

The Flint veteran, who served three years in the Navy, said he regarded the amount as "insulting." He had been back at work a month at Buick, he said, before GM workers struck. Another veteran, he said, showed him a check for four cents.

—Flint News-Advertiser, July 30.

NEW YORK Indonesian Republic Anniversary Rally FRIDAY, AUG. 16, 8 p.m.

Speakers:
JOHN R. ANDU, President, Indonesia League of America
JOSEPH HANSEN, Socialist Workers Party
PEARL BUCK, East-West Assn.
FRANK CROSSWAITH, Negro Labor Comm.

**LABOR TEMPLE
242 East 14th St.**

Auspices: Indonesia League of America

THE MILITANT ARMY

Four SWP Branches Wind Up Campaign



Four branches of the Socialist Workers Party have wound up Militant subscription campaigns with excellent results.

D. Lessing, Newark: "Enclosed are 34 subs—the last batch secured during our call-back campaign which ended July 15. We feel that our campaign was quite successful. We visited 204 subscribers and 82 Militant readers renewed their subs. In addition we got 18 new subs to the paper during the campaign. Ruth Franklin got the highest number of points—200 more than the runner-up, Larry Carter. Team 4 was the winning team."

Part of the reason for their winning was the high score piled up by Larry and also the good showing made by Lou Waters, one of our new members. Joe B., who has been in the Party for almost a year, was given an honorary 200 points for recruiting two new members during the course of the campaign. Prizes will be presented to the winners."

Clara Kaye, Seattle: "George Flint arranged and organized our recall work in excellent fashion. He had a huge map of the city on the wall, stuck full of pins signifying expired subs. As the people were visited, the results were put down on an equally huge list of names he had pasted on cardboard and the pins were removed from the map. Today, only a few pins are left, and those in isolated areas that are difficult to reach. Many of the comrades went out both Saturday and Sunday, every week, for two months."

Sam Stone, Buffalo: "Kaminsky led the plant team with 39 subs and Stone led the city team with 31 subs. They were given books donated by Comrade Davis and Johnson—"History of Great American Fortunes" and "Ten Days That Shook the World." The plant team finished with a total of 95 subs, the city team with a total of 138, winding up the campaign with a total of 233 subs since June 10.

"How'd we do it? Since we are influential in the plant we thought it a good idea to get subs from the workers in the plant. So the comrades did that. For those going house-to-house

we got a list of all the subscribers whose subs had expired and visited them. We had mobilizations for Saturday morning about 11 o'clock. We found out that is the best time for visiting since most people who are working are usually home about noon time. A scoreboard in the headquarters recorded each comrade's progress."

Youngstown Branch is getting its renewal campaign under way, according to M. Jones: "Due to a great deal of other pressing activity our Militant renewal campaign has been hanging fire for sometime. We now have all the plans laid out for a vigorous call-back program. We intend to have subs literally flowing into the Militant office in the next couple of weeks."

Bob Stewart and Pete Morgan of New York Local, now gathering signatures to put Socialist Workers Party candidates on the ballot, are also doing a good job on subscriptions. From Mechanicville they report, "We have three 6-month subs." From Fort Edwards, "One 6-month sub." From Glens Falls, "Enclosed are six 6-month and a one-year sub. The one-year is from an old-timer, a member of the AFL for many years. He voluntarily insisted on making it a one-year when I suggested six months."

Sam Taylor of Milwaukee, Wis., backs his appraisal of The Militant with subs for friends. "Enclosed find eight 6-month subs to The Militant from students at the University of Wisconsin," he writes. "The paper is getting better all the time, in makeup as well as content. I am sending this airmail so that you can get the first copy out to these students as quickly as possible."

Welcome, Comrade Taylor, to the ranks of The Militant Army.

W. D. of Washington, D. C., an old friend of The Militant Army, sent money for mailing The Militant to a list of friends.

Jarvis Dusenbery, another old friend in Perry, N. Y., has again ordered ten additional copies of the paper for distribution among friends.

OUR PROGRAM:

1. Full employment and job security for all workers and veterans!

A sliding scale of hours! Reduce the hours of work with no reduction in pay!

A rising scale of wages! Increase wages to meet the increased cost of living!

Government operation of all idle and government-built plants under workers' control!

Unemployment insurance equal to trade union wages during the entire period of unemployment!

2. Independence of the trade unions from the government!

No restriction on the right to strike!

3. Organization of the war veterans by the trade unions!

4. Full equality for Negroes and national minorities!

Down with Jim Crow!

5. Build an independent labor party!

No taxes on incomes under \$5,000 a year!

7. A working class answer to capitalist militarism!

Military training of workers, financed by the government, but under control of the trade unions! Trade union wages for all workers in the armed forces!

8. Solidarity with the revolutionary struggles of the workers in all lands!

For the complete independence of the colonial peoples!

Withdraw all American troops from foreign soil!

9. For a Workers' and Farmers' Government!

Join the Socialist Workers Party!

SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY
116 University Place
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I would like:

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☐ To obtain further information about your organization.

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1879 - 1940

Trotsky Memorial

THE MILITANT invites all its readers and friends to attend the memorial meetings in the following cities.

New York

Memorial Address by
JOSEPH HANSEN

Former Secretary to Leon Trotsky and
SWP candidate for U. S. Senate

also:

SYLVIA BLECKER

SWP candidate for Attorney General
Film Showing of

"Ten Days That Shook
The World"

Based on John Reed's famous book
on the Russian Revolution.

**Wednesday, August 21
8 p.m.**

WEBSTER HALL

119 East 11th St.

(Between 3rd and 4th Aves.)

Akron

Memorial Address by
JOSEPH ANDREWS

Sunday, August 25, 8 p.m.

**SOCIALIST WORKERS
PARTY**

405-6 Everett Bldg.,
39 E. Market St.,

Flint

WILLIAM F. WARDE

National SWP Educational Director
will speak on

"The Meaning of Trotskyism
to the American
Working Class"

Sunday, August 18, 8 p.m.

First meeting at opening of
New Flint Headquarters

215 East 9th St.

Los Angeles

MURRAY WEISS

National Committee, SWP
will speak on

"Trotsky and the American
Socialist Revolution"

Other speakers:

ROSE KARSNER, on
"Trotsky—The Man"

AL MILLER, on
"Why You Should Join the
Socialist Workers Party"

Sunday, August 25 8 p.m.

Embassy Auditorium

North Hall

847 South Grand Ave.

Portland

JOYCE HESSER

will speak on

"Trotsky and the Fourth
International"

August 24, 8 p.m.

Socialist Workers Party

134 S. W. Washington

3rd floor

Eight Ex-GIs Raise Objection To Our Demand For Military Training Under Control Of Trade Unions



By V. Grey

Constant and Variable Capital

All the mountains of surplus value in the form of factories, machinery, stock-piles and buildings are wonderful aids in the production of new wealth. But they produce nothing by themselves. Their own value is transferred to their products. It reappears in their products, like the mud of a mountain worn down reappears in the river delta miles away—in different form, with different natural results than in its former state.

All the wealth of capital is vitally necessary for production on a modern scale. But once put into production it does not breed new values. The iron ore reappears in the pig iron. But it is immersed there like shredded carrots in a gelatin salad, or like the fat of a soup bone in the soup. The ore has not added to itself nor subtracted from itself. It has been changed, it is true, by an outside force. But the ore has been all used up and reappears in the iron.

As it is with the thing itself, so it is with its value. The value of the iron ore didn't fly up the furnace flue with the smoke. And it didn't double itself with the iron's weight. It was simply preserved in the iron itself. The value of iron ore, as well as other materials, stays CONSTANT.

The part of capital that is spent for raw materials Marx calls CONSTANT capital. The money spent for limestone, coke, sulphur and silicon is "barren" capital. It is like the wet clay waiting to be moulded by the potter. Marx calls it CONSTANT capital because it does not grow. It is CONSTANTLY the same, in spite of all its transformations—slag, smoke, gas, iron, steel—its value merely reappears in the new value. But it is neither more nor less than before.

VARIABLE CAPITAL

A laborer makes a chair out of sticks of wood and the sticks reappear in the chair. Take the chair apart again and you have the same sticks. But in the chair you have something which embodies the value of the sticks plus another value—the value added to it by the labor of the chair-maker. If chairs are made fast enough, a great deal of value is added to a great heap of sticks. (And if an employer pays a low enough wage, a great deal of value is added to his pocket.)

As it is with chair makers, so it is with iron makers. The furnace workers add value to the product by their labor. If limestone, coke and iron ore were just mixed together in a pot, they wouldn't sell for a cent more than they were bought. But when they are put in a furnace, when they are boiled for a while and the slag is flushed off and all the necessary labor is performed, they turn into a new product with a newly added value. Labor-added value. (And workers always get paid less value than their labor creates.)

The part of capital that is invested by the employer in labor power MARX calls VARIABLE capital. That is because it is the living part of the capital that seems to make it add on to itself, like a coral island. Here is the real source of the capitalist's profit.

But what concerns us right now is not alone the fact that we as workers are being robbed day in and day out by this profit system. Right now we are trying to find out why the system itself is dying—why it is running down. It is very important now to understand the relation of constant capital to variable capital.

And before we deal further with this, there is another very important part of constant capital we must discuss—the part spent on machinery. Many people are apt to think that machines really do create new values. It is easy to prove that they do not. Marx proved it irrefutably long ago.

(Next week: "The Machine")

A Letter

Chicago, Ill.
July 24, 1946

Editor:

We the undersigned wholly disagree with Phase No. 7 in The Militant "Program," which is as follows:

"Military training of workers, financed by the Government, but under control of the trade unions! Trade union wages for all workers in the armed forces."

We sincerely believe this phase would be used for personal gains and ambition, by mercenary leaders in the various trade unions. This we believe would lead to fascism, under a new title.

Respectfully submitted,

E. Stack
F. Mauro
N. Thermos
R. Cocelo
S. Rizzo
Wm. Klick.
Paul Iaccino
Sig Dedo

ALL EX-GIs

And An Answer

The editors of The Militant have asked me, as a former soldier, to answer your letter and explain the meaning of the slogan with which you disagree. They tell me that you are not only ex-GIs, but also members of an important local of the CIO-United Auto Workers in Chicago. That means you and I have at least two things in common: We know what life is like in the armed forces. And we are concerned with the best interests of the labor movement.

Point 7 in "Our Program" (on page 5 of this issue) is a very condensed slogan of an idea hard to explain in a sentence or two, and we are glad of this opportunity to explain its meaning at greater length.

Our program as a whole—Point 7, and all the other points—is based on the fact that there is a struggle going on all the time between the two most important forces in our country: the capitalist class and the working class. In order for the working class to be successful in that struggle, it must follow an independent policy and create its own organizations.

On the economic field the workers have to create their own organizations, the unions. If they don't do this, if they act alone and individually, then it is extremely easy for the employers to defeat them, cut their wages, lengthen their hours, speed them up mercilessly, and so on. Most workers have learned this from their own experience.

On the political field it is also necessary for the workers to have their own organization, an independent labor party. Without a party seeking to take power in the interests of labor, the capitalists are able by their hold on the government and their two parties to pass and enforce all kinds of laws weakening and crippling the labor movement. Many workers have begun to understand this, and that is why the sentiment for an independent labor party is today greater than ever.

Independent Policy Needed

But it is also necessary for the workers to have an independent policy in the military field. Not many workers understand this yet, but we are certain that experience will show them the need for this too. Let me try to explain why.

The capitalists have many ways of keeping themselves in power. They have the schools and the radio and the newspapers and the movies, where they get their propaganda across. They also have the government—the White House and Congress and the Supreme Court, which all look out for the best interests of the Sixty Families that rule this country. But that isn't all. In case these aren't enough, they also have the police and the courts and the prisons—and the armed forces, especially the General Staff.

There isn't another institution in the country which is as anti-democratic as the general staff. By its very nature the general staff is dictatorial through and through. You have been in the armed forces, so you know that it is hard to distinguish between fascism and the way the Army and Navy are run.

Role of the Brass

The brass hats have no use for democracy. They are enemies of labor and everything the labor movement stands for. By their training, by their outlook the generals become the fiercest defenders of the ruling class—and the more dictatorial the ruling class is, the better the brass hats like it.

This has always been the case. In Germany the officer caste was the first important group to back Hitler and bring him to power. In Italy too the generals sided with the fascists. The General Staff is no different in this country. After the workers have created their own party and try to establish a Workers and Farmers Government, the capitalists are going to try to overthrow it by violence, and their most dependable supporters will be the anti-democratic generals.



At this point, let me recall what happened in Spain just ten years ago, because that experience has a very direct connection with the slogan of military training under trade union control.

A new government was elected in Spain in 1936 by the overwhelming majority of the workers and poor farmers. It wasn't a revolutionary government, but it did have a program of mild reforms (something along the lines of the New Deal). The capitalists refused to stand for such a government, even though its election had been perfectly legal. So they prepared to overthrow it. And they naturally turned to the most reactionary elements in the country to do their work for them—the generals.

The Lesson Of Spain

These generals were headed by Franco, who had a position in the Army something like that held by Eisenhower in the U. S. today. They did not have much following among the population as a whole, but they did have complete control over most of the men in the armed forces. They organized a conspiracy among the generals, and used their control over the army to stage a rebellion against the government for the purpose of establishing fascism.

The government had only a small part of the army to support it. To fight fascism, the unions and the working class parties had to organize their own divisions and send them to the front lines to fight the fascist troops. If not for these workers' military units, Franco would have won in short order. How much better it would have been if the workers had received military training under the control of their unions before the fascist insurrection! Perhaps they could even have crushed Franco's forces before Hitler and Mussolini were able to reinforce him. Perhaps the whole world situation would have been changed by that.

As you have already noticed, we are not pacifists. We are living in a period when all the great issues are decided by force or threat of force. Therefore we never tell the workers that they can solve any of their problems by pacifism, by refusing to fight.

On the contrary, we believe that the labor movement can solve its problems only through struggle. When the employers attack the conditions of the workers in a plant, we believe in fighting back, and we tell the workers that. When scabs or cops try to break through a picket line, we believe in self-defense. When vigilantes or the Ku Klux Klan attack workers' organizations and meetings, we call on the workers to resist by forming workers' defense guards. When the fascists will try to set up their dictatorship (and some of them are laying the groundwork now), we call for armed struggle to defeat them. The workers can never defend their gains, let alone win anything, by refusing to fight. And in order for them to be able to win, they must know HOW to fight. That is why we are in favor of military training for the workers.

But we are not in favor of capitalist conscription. We are opposed to giving the brass hats control over millions of young men. We don't want to see the power of the militarists increased, the way it was in most European countries. We don't want to give them the force for another imperialist war or to dominate colonial countries. We know that the militarists are anti-labor to the core, and that they will use added power against the labor movement. (Just a few weeks ago they were all ready to use the Army and Navy to break the railroad and maritime strikes.) For these reasons we opposed the extension of the draft.

Since we are in favor of military training and opposed to capitalist conscription, we worked out a bill which we want introduced in Congress, and which will be introduced there if any of our candidates get elected in November. This is what we propose:

Let the government appropriate the necessary

money to give the workers military training. But instead of putting these millions of workers under the control of the brass hats, let their training be under the control of their own class organizations, the unions.

Furthermore we want this system of military training to be democratic—unlike training in the Army. We want the workers to retain all their democratic rights. In this way they will be able to point out and correct errors and likewise take steps leading to the removal of officers who are incompetent, hostile or indifferent to the interests of the workers.

Another thing we dislike about the regular army is that most of its officers are drawn from the ranks of the capitalist class. Under these conditions, the same things could very well happen here that happened in Spain. Therefore our bill not only provides military training for the workers, but also officer-training for those workers who display leadership qualities and who are loyal to the interests of the labor movement.

These are the ideas at the bottom of the brief Point No. 7 in "Our Program."

How To Pose The Question

So I ask you to think over the question of military training. You know what it was—and is—in the Army. You saw what the caste system was—with the officers living an entirely different kind of life from the rank and file. You saw or heard of incompetent officers needlessly sacrificing the lives of men who could be court-martialed for even protesting. You know about the court-martial system, where an enlisted man practically never has a chance, even when he is completely in the right. You know race discrimination and segregation in the Army was as bad as anything in the South.

We used to talk about it a lot in our outfit. Some of the men said there wasn't much difference they could see between Army life and

Higher Prices Pour Like Flood Out Of OPA

Price increases on virtually all necessities are pouring out so fast from the Office of Price Administration (OPA) that it is almost impossible to keep track of them. Price "decontrol," already accelerated under OPA before June 30, is now zooming ahead full speed.

Last week the OPA, among hundreds of price boosts, added another cent to the price of an average loaf of bread and a cent a pound for flour. Other increases were placed on cereals, macaroni, noodles, cornmeal and hominy grits—all food staples of the poor.

Reports from Washington indicate that OPA also plans to raise ceiling prices on coffee as much as eight to ten cents a pound. Other increases are expected of one to two cents on canned vegetables such as corn, peas and tomatoes.

OPA Director Paul Porter admitted last week that "it looks as though clothing prices and prices for some manufactured goods may have to rise." He gave comfort only with an amateur weather forecast—"I think the signs very definitely point to a real promise of clear weather and clearer sailing ahead."

The tripe is being peddled that the zooming prices under the "new" OPA would not have occurred under the "old" OPA set-up. However, most of the price boosts recently legalized by OPA were planned before June 30.

"The price changes which rattled off OPA's mimeograph machines in the first week of its revival were almost entirely shifts in ceilings which the agency had had in mind in June and would have put into effect July 1 if it had not been for the failure of Congress to give the President a law which he could sign before that date," affirms the New York Times, August 4.

Wages, Prices And Profits

The Anarchy Prevailing Under Capitalism

By Warren Creel

Thus far in this series the facts have brought out three main points:

1. **Wages do not control prices.** The wage costs go lower and lower as efficiency goes up in production. Wage costs of production are far below prices.

2. **Efficiency in production does not control wages.** This is the personal experience of every worker. His production goes up but his standard of living stays down. Statistics show that the general rule is: the workers produce more but they don't get more.

3. **It is not the free choice or arbitrary plan of the employers that controls prices and wages.** We must look into the employer's power and the limits of his power. He does not control the economic system by his wishes or orders.

So we have a list of three forces that do not control wages and prices. We have cleared these out of the way. Now what does control them? We can find the answer by Marx's method, the key to which is: Keep your eye on production and productive human labor and you'll see the controlling forces in economics.

What Controls Wages and Prices?

We should begin by finding the normal rules that govern prices and wages under capitalism. Later on we'll see whether the capitalist can stretch these rules in his own favor, and if so, how far.

In the market every capitalist seller tries to sell his goods for the best price he can get. The seller tries to raise prices whenever he can. The buyer tries to buy cheaply. Prices come from this competition between buyers and sellers.

The kind of bargain each can make depends primarily upon market conditions of supply and demand. For instance, if the sellers have only a small supply of goods they can hold out for a high price. But if the sellers have a big supply, they are in a bad price position. They have to sell their goods somehow or take a loss from having unsold goods left on their hands. No single seller can keep his prices high, because he knows the competing sellers will cut prices in order to sell their goods, leaving him with unsold stock on his hands. This is one of the limits to the power of the capitalist seller. He is not free to set his own prices. He has to sell at prices set up by supply and demand, because he sells in a competitive market.

Go Behind Supply and Demand

To find the real rule on prices, however, we have to go behind supply and demand. We have to look back to production, which is exactly what we would expect from the Marxist method. Supply and demand are not acci-

dents; they are rooted in production. For example, a small supply means there has been low production, while a big supply comes from high production.

An industry doesn't go on operating forever with an over-supply of goods and low prices. A low price will cause changes in the supply. Producers will move out of an industry when prices—and profits—go too low. As they move out and stop producing, the supply gets smaller and prices tend to go back up.

Similarly a temporary high price will tend to bring up production. The good price will bring in other producers. The new producers will increase the supply and bring down the price.

By such swings back and forth, up and down, the system of capitalist production exercises a sort of "control" over both the market prices of goods and the amount of goods produced. After a list of factors that do not exercise control we are coming to something that does control.

Thus the blind working of competition and prices—the laws of the market—govern the economic system. No human intelligence decides how much goods we need. No human choice governs how much goods shall be produced. An employer plans his own plant, but he does not know the total the market will absorb in the end, or how much of it will fall to his share.

From One Crisis to Another

Marxists have a name for this lack of human planning and control. They call this irrational condition the lawlessness, or "anarchy of capitalism." Capitalist anarchy results from the operation of certain blind economic laws, above all the law of labor-value, but it obeys no human controls or laws.

An economic system needs some sort of control over production. Capitalist anarchy is harsh, but it gives the only "control" over production that capitalism can ever have. If producers of shoes are making more shoes than the market will take, capitalist anarchy tells them so by low prices, so that factories go bankrupt, workers lose their jobs, and shoe production goes down. When production has dropped down low enough to meet the requirements of this blind system, it tells society so by high prices and scarcity.

Both surplus ("over-production") and scarcity ("under-production") bring evil results under this system. Blind capitalist anarchy prevails in capitalist production, swinging it forever back and forth from one evil to the other, from one crisis to another.

Next week: Labor-Value Controls Wages

CHICAGO Fight Lynch Terror Now!

Mass Meeting

Speakers:

MILTON RICHARDSON

SWP Candidate for Lt.-Governor in N. Y.

"The Fight Against the Fascist KKK Lynch Wave in America"

M. BARTELL

Chicago SWP Organizer

"The Fight Against Vigilante Terrorism in Chicago"

FRIDAY, August 16: 8 p.m.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN CENTER

700 East Oakwood Blvd.

Auspices: Socialist Workers Party

Incitement To Murder

Bilbo on June 22 called on

"every red-blooded Anglo-Saxon man in Mississippi to resort to any means to keep hundreds of Negroes from the polls in the July 2 primary." He continued: "It is up to the red-blooded men to do something about it. The white men of this state have a right to resort to any means at their command to stop it." And just to be sure no one misunderstood his lynch call, he concluded: "And if you don't know what that means you are just not up on your persuasive measures."

How The Truth Triumphed Over Moscow Frameup Lies

By Joseph Hansen

(Eleventh in a series on the Moscow Trials and their significance.)

On September 21, 1937, the Commission of Inquiry Into the Charges Made Against Leon Trotsky in the Moscow Trials gave a summary of its findings to the public. Point by point, the Commission listed the main conclusions it had reached in its exhaustive investigation. The last two sentences of the Commission's:

"We therefore find the Moscow trials to be frame-ups," said the first sentence in this conclusion. "We therefore find Trotsky and Sedov not guilty," said the second sentence.

The complete report of the Commission was published in 1938 by Harper & Brothers as a book, "Not Guilty." This volume of 422 pages constitutes the most definitive analysis of the Moscow frame-up trials yet produced.

The Commission placed the requirements of truth and scientific exactness above everything else in its report. Each conclusion is voluminously documented. Yet "Not Guilty" is as fascinating reading as any detective story can wish. It takes the most gigantic frame-ups in all history, frame-ups organized by a powerful government with millions of dollars at its disposal, and step by step it unravels all the threads until the whole monstrous crime of the Kremlin against Lenin's comrades is laid bare.

VAST MURDER MACHINE

Yet the report of the Commission transcends in importance the simple exposure of the wild fictions cooked up in the headquarters of the GPU. It deals with a vast international murder machine, whose tentacles reach into all lands. "The issue," declared the Commission, "even more than those involved in such historic cases as that of Dreyfus, Sacco-Vanzetti, or Dimitroff-Torgler, must therefore be regarded as international. It imperils countless human lives and compromises those standards of justice which mankind has painfully established to safeguard the individual against governmental oppression."

The Stalinist defenders of the Moscow frame-ups had maintained that the trials appeared somewhat strange because of differences between Anglo-Saxon and Soviet legal procedure. The Commission established, however, that "the conduct of the trials violated Soviet law on criminal procedure in every important point." The Commission even uncovered declarations of Prosecutor Vyshinsky himself, proving that his procedure in the Moscow frame-ups violated Soviet legal requirements.

The Commission took up the testimony of the defendants one



LEON SEDOV

Son of Leon Trotsky and Natalia Sedov Trotsky. Shared exile of his parents in Austria, Switzerland, France and the United States in Czarist days. After 1917 he was active in the Communist youth movement. When his parents were exiled by Stalin, he accompanied them first to Alma-Ata in 1928 and then to Turkey in 1929.

He was Trotsky's closest collaborator. He studied engineering at Berlin but was forced to flee on Hitler's rise to power. He edited the Bulletin of the Russian Opposition. He was among those marked for death by the GPU. They tracked him down while he was in a Paris hospital and caused his death February 16, 1938.

by one and examined their hair-raising utterances. A few quotations will indicate what the Commission proved:

"On the basis of all the evidence . . . we conclude that in so far as it applied to Smirnov's confession of conspiratorial communication with Trotsky and Sedov, this statement of Vyshinsky in his summation was correct: 'Smirnov himself did not utter a single word of truth here . . .'"

Holtzman had claimed he met Sedov in Copenhagen at the Hotel Bristol, after which he met Trotsky. The Commission made the following verdict on this "testimony": "We therefore hold the evidence to prove conclusively (1) that Sedov was not in Copenhagen at the time of Trotsky's visit to that city; (2)

that Holtzman did not meet Sedov and go with him to see Trotsky; (3) that Holtzman did not see Trotsky in Copenhagen." Similarly in the case of Valentin Olberg: "We find, therefore, that Olberg's confession is worthless as proof of the charges against Leon Trotsky and Leon Sedov in the August trial. On the basis of this conclusion, and of the evidence cited above concerning Olberg's character, his relations with the Opposition, and in particular with Trotsky and Sedov, we find that Olberg never went to Russia with terrorist instructions from Trotsky and Sedov."

On the famous airplane trip which Pyatakov alleged he made to get terrorist instructions from Trotsky in Norway, the Commission found:

"We hold that the evidence concerning Pyatakov's alleged flight in the record of the trial is open to the gravest doubt; that the Prosecutor's silence, and that of the Court, in the face of published testimony impugning that evidence during the trial, warrants a suspicion of frame-up; that the doubt which the record inspires is converted by the evidence offered in rebuttal into certainty that no such flight took place. We therefore find that Pyatakov did not see Trotsky in December, 1935, and did not receive from him instructions of any kind; and that the disproof of Pyatakov's testimony on this crucial point renders his whole confession worthless."

Viadimir Romm had testified Sedov took him at the end of July 1933 to the "Bois de Boulogne" in Paris where he met Trotsky. Then, said Romm, Trotsky told him about the "need" for terrorism, wrecking, diversion and defeatism, and gave him a book with a letter concealed in the cover for delivery to defendant Radek. The Commission proved, however, that this was a tissue of lies since neither Sedov nor Trotsky were anywhere near Paris. Vyshinsky made no attempt to obtain the police record of Trotsky's whereabouts in France at the time specified. The reason was clear. Trotsky was at St. Palais in the South of France.

The Commission's inquiry into the "confessions" was alone enough to shatter the clumsy frame-up. But it went further. The Commission found the charge of sabotage "not only not proved but not credible." All the evidence corroborated "Trotsky's contention that the delays, disproportions, extravagance, etc., which the accused confessed were due to sabotage, are the chronic diseases of Soviet industry; that they are due to haste, overreaching, inefficiency, etc.; and that the explanation of these shortcomings by scapegoats is a usual method of whitewashing the regime."

CHARGES PREPOSTEROUS

On the charge of "agreements with foreign powers," the Commission found: "Our study of the trial records convinces us that Trotsky is fully justified in contending that the counter-revolutionary activity ascribed to him is characterized by an extraordinary stupidity. On the other hand, we find that his whole public activity, including his voluminous writings, has followed a consistent theoretical line throughout his long career, and that line is diametrically opposed to the activity ascribed to him in the two Moscow trials. 'We do not presume to judge the aims to which he has devoted himself, or the methods by which he has pursued those aims. But we can and do state that his career has been that of a man of extraordinary intelligence and ability. To believe that his prodigious public activity was intended merely to cloak conspiratorial enterprises as stupid, inept and feeble as those ascribed to him in the trials, would be to abandon any claim to common sense. We therefore hold the charge of conspiracy with foreign powers to be not only proved, but preposterous.'"

In conclusion, the Commission proved that exacting "confessions" by torture was common procedure under Stalin and had been for a number of years before the infamous frame-up trials. "In the light of all this evidence the conclusion appears inevitable that the indictments and confessions in the widely publicized series of trials of alleged plotters against the Soviet regime were determined in each case — including the trials of August 1936, and January 1937 — by the current internal difficulties, economic and political, and by the current situation in the foreign relations, of the Soviet regime. In other words, we find that the trials have served not juridical but political ends."

MIDWEST SCHOOL PLANS LABOR DAY JAMBOREE

(Special to The Militant)

GRASS LAKE, Mich., Aug. 2. — The Midwest School and Camp plans to conclude its third successful season with a gala Labor Day Weekend Jamboree. This Jamboree is scheduled for three days — Saturday, Aug. 31 through Monday, Sept. 2.

A special rate of \$10 will cover all expenses for room and board at the School and Camp for these three days. "Almost every other camp raises its rates for this holiday weekend but Midwest is making this special offer for the following purpose," writes Oscar Coover, Manager of the Camp. "We want to make it possible for all those workers who belong to the Socialist Workers Party or who read The Militant to enjoy the facilities and get the benefit of the socialist education here at our School and Camp."

"We extend an urgent invitation to working men and women newly acquainted with our political movement to pay us a visit over Labor Day weekend and enjoy the comradeship atmosphere here together with us. Adults can come for the low rate of \$10, children for half-rates at \$5. "The educational and recrea-

tional directors are planning an extensive program of classes and activities for the holiday Jamboree. We are certain that it will be a memorable festive occasion as a windup to our 1946 season."

The Midwest School and Camp last week announced it was extending its season for two extra weeks until Sept. 2. Reservations can now be made for the remaining weeks in August as well as for the Labor Day Weekend Jamboree. The camp's capacity is limited. Reservations should therefore be made as soon as possible and should be accompanied with a deposit.

Midwest Camp is situated on the shores of Little Pleasant Lake about ten miles east of Jackson and sixty miles west of Detroit, Michigan.

Instructions on transportation will be sent upon receipt of reservations. Send reservations to Oscar Coover, Manager, Midwest School and Camp, Grass Lake, Michigan.

Chicago AVC Chapter Backs Resolution On Defense Guard

By Robert L. Birchman

(Special to The Militant)

CHICAGO, Aug. 1.—The resolution on the need for a defense organization to prevent further vigilante violence against minorities, which had been introduced at the Con-

ference to Combat Terrorism, the labor movement, since the victory of race hatred would divide the ranks of labor and encourage the fascist-minded vigilantes to launch their assaults against the unions." The resolution concludes:

"That this conference recognizes the need for the establishing of a defense organization by the powerful labor movement in cooperation with minority and progressive organizations as the only effective means of protecting minority groups against terrorist attacks, such a defense organization to be similar in its functions to the present system of flying squads developed by the unions in strikes, that is, mobile and ready for action the moment a life or home is threatened, and prepared to establish rotating, permanent guards wherever necessary to protect the right of Negroes and other minorities to live in freedom from fear wherever they please in the city of Chicago."

Chapter 16 of the AVC also voted to contribute \$10 to the Grace Hardy Fund.

The Hardy home is now being prepared and will be ready for occupancy by Sept. 1. The Steering Committee of the Conference to Combat Terrorism is now soliciting tenants among Negro veterans who are volunteering to move into the house and thus defeat the attempts of the terrorists to force Negroes out of the immediate community.

To date \$350 has been placed at the disposal of the Investigating Committee established by the Conference to be offered as a reward for information leading to the apprehension and conviction of any one guilty of terrorist acts against the Negro people in Chicago. The American Civil Liberties Union offered \$250 and the Chicago Urban League \$100.

A mass meeting is being organized by the Socialist Workers Party for Fri., Aug. 16 at Abraham Lincoln Center, 700 East Oakwood Blvd., to protest the KKK lynch wave nationally and the wave of terrorism in Chicago. Among the speakers will be Milton Richardson, SWP candidate for Lieutenant-Governor of New York and M. Bartell, Chicago SWP organizer.

The Toledo Area Council of Railroad Workers is already on record for the formation of a Labor Party. However, agreement on this question was not and is not a condition for joining in this united labor conference. The question of whether to form a Labor Party or to support capitalist "friends of labor" will be left open, with the participants to the body being free to choose their own course regarding endorsement of candidates.

In addition to the leaders of the Toledo Area Council of Railroad Workers, Richard Gosser, CIO United Auto Workers Regional Director; Franz Berlaicher, of the AFL Teamsters; Weisenborn, of the MESA; and spokesmen for many Locals and Lodges of the railroad crafts spoke in favor of the move for united action of all Toledo labor in the political field.

Many speakers also expressed their agreement with the proposal of the Toledo Area Council of Railroad Workers for a United Labor Day Parade. Richard Lazette, president of the Toledo CIO Council, announced that his organization is 100 per cent for a united parade.

Correction

Last week's report on the Conference to Combat Terrorism erroneously edited to give the impression that the Conference endorsed a resolution calling for the building of Defense Guards to protect the Negro people from attack. Actually, as the adjoining article makes clear, the Conference, after debate and defeat of a motion to table the resolution, voted to send the resolution to all organizations represented at the Conference for discussion and expression of opinion.

Dewey Freeport "Investigation" Ends In Whitewash Of Murderer

By Bill Morgan

NEW YORK, Aug. 5.—Another coat of whitewash has been added to the Jim Crow murder of Charles and Alfonso Ferguson, Negro brothers who were both shot in cold blood by a Freeport, N. Y. cop last February.

Governor Dewey, who heads the Republican state machine in New York, has ordered the case closed as a result of the recent "investigation" conducted by Lawrence S. Greenbaum, a Republican stooge.

This "investigation," as predicted by The Militant (June 20) was a complete farce. All testimony and witnesses were processed behind closed doors in advance of the so-called public hearing. The Defense Council was not permitted to develop testimony or cross-examine witnesses. No testimony concerning the notorious Jim Crow conditions and practices in Nassau County, the scene of the killing, was allowed. At the final session of the hearings the Defense Council and many representatives of minority and political organizations indignantly walked out after denouncing the procedure established by Greenbaum.

CASE "CLOSED"

In the final report, the Governor's investigator said that the policeman, Joseph Romeika, an ex-Pinkerton flunk and railroad dick, would have acted the same way even if the Ferguson brothers had been white. He also said that, in his opinion, it would not be possible to convict the cop of murder if Romeika was tried. The Governor, anxious to cover up the criminal acts of his Republican henchmen in Nassau County, quickly accepted the report and declared the case "closed."

With this outrageous action, Governor Dewey publicly revealed his genuine attitude toward the Negro people. His whitewash of the Freeport murder is part and parcel of the nation-wide wave of terror against the Negro people. In the South, political representatives of the Bourbons like Rankin, Eastland, Bilbo and Talmadge incite lynchings. In the North, political representatives of Big Business like Governor Dewey cover up the terror waged by racial bigots.

But this is not the end of the now-famous Ferguson case. The Negro and white workers of New York will remember these brothers as victims of capitalist rule. The whitewash of Romeika is one more proof that the workers cannot hope for economic, social and political equality until they drive out the capitalist machine politicians and put their own representatives in office.



Philadelphia U.E. Local Calls For Escalator Wage Clause

By H. Newil

(Special to The Militant)

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 2.—In preparation for the CIO United Electrical Workers convention to be held in Milwaukee this fall, Westinghouse Local 107 at its recent regular membership meeting here adopted several progressive resolutions.

One of the main resolutions passed called for the inclusion of an escalator clause in all UE wage contracts to provide for an automatically rising scale of wages as the cost of living rises.

To fight against mass unemployment in the next period of economic crisis, the local proposes that organized labor push forward the demand for the six-hour day and 30-hour week, with 40 hours' pay. It further proposes that May First—May Day—be revived as an official labor holiday to help carry on the struggle for the six-hour day, in the tradition of the original May Day struggle which led to the establishment of the eight-hour day.

The local went on record to root out the incentive pay system by calling for decent hourly wage rates for all workers in the industry. This speed-up system is used to create strife among the workers and weaken the union.

NAT'L LABOR CONFERENCE

Another important resolution calls for a national conference of all organized labor to work out a program of united labor action to beat back the growing attacks of the employers and their political agents on the rights and living standards of the American workers.

Having learned a bitter lesson from the drawn-out four-month strike against Westinghouse, the Local 107 members voted for a policy of unified strike action, instead of the costly one-corporation-at-a-time policy. They propose industry-wide demands and negotiations, industry-wide

strikes when necessary and industry-wide settlements.

By the narrow margin of just one vote, a resolution for the formation of a national labor party was defeated. Contradictory arguments were raised against the resolution, some calling for the support of PAC while at the same time condemning trade union support of any political party.

The militants who sponsored these progressive resolutions are urging the Local 107 members to elect delegates who will put up a real fight to adopt these resolutions at the forthcoming UE convention.

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ALLENTOWN BETHLEHEM — Open meeting every Thursday, 8 p. m., at Militant Labor Forum, S. E. corner Front and Hamilton Streets, Allentown.

BALTIMORE — For information write Box 1583, Baltimore 3, Md. Monthly forums to be announced.

BAYONNE — SWP headquarters, 62 W. 23rd St. Open house 2nd and 4th Saturdays.

BOSTON — Office at 30 Stuart St. Open Saturdays from noon until 5 p. m.; Wednesday and Fridays, 7:30 to 9:30 p. m.

BUFFALO — Open every afternoon except Sunday. Militant Forum, 629 Main St., 2nd floor.

CHICAGO — Visit SWP, 777 W. Adams (corner Halsted). Open 11 a. m. to 5 p. m. daily, except Sunday. Tel. Dearborn 4767. Library, bookstore.

CLEVELAND — Militant Forum every Friday, 8:30 p. m. at Peck's Hall 1446 E. 82nd St. (off Wade Pk.).

CONNECTICUT — Write to the Militant, P.O. Box 841, New Haven.

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FLINT — SWP meets every Friday, 8 p. m. at YWCA, 1st and Harrison.

LOS ANGELES — Visit Militant Publishing Assn., 318 1/2 W. Pico Blvd. Open daily, 12 noon to 5 p. m. Phone Richmond 4644.

Every Friday, 8 p. m.—Militant Workers Forum, 466 E.

MILWAUKEE — Visit the Milwaukee SWP branch, 424 E. Wells St., evenings from 7:30 to 9:30. Sat. night—Open house.

MINNEAPOLIS — Visit the Labor Book Store, 10 South 4th St., open 10 a. m. to 5 p. m. daily.

NEWARK — Visit SWP headquarters, 423 Springfield Ave. Phone Bigelow 3-2574. Library and reading room open week nights, 7-10 p. m.

NEW YORK—CITY HQ., 116 University Place, GR. 5-8149. Tues., 7:30, rehearsal of Militant chorus.

HARLEM: 103 W. 110 St., Rm. 23. MO. 2-1866.

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CHELSEA: 130 W. 23 St., phone CH 2-9434.

OAKLAND, Cal.—Meetings Wednesday, Odd Fellows Temple, 410 - 11th St. For information write to P.O. Box 1351.

PHILADELPHIA — SWP Headquarters, 1303-05 W. Girard Ave., 2nd floor. Open daily. Friday forum, 8 p. m. Phone Stevenson 5820.

PITTSBURGH—Militant Reading Room, 141 S. Highland, Room 21 (corner Highland and Central Ave.), E. Liberty. Phone, EM. 4899. Open Wednesday, 7 to 10 p. m. Sunday 3 to 9 p. m.

PORTLAND, Ore. — Visit the SWP headquarters, 134 S. W. Washington, 3rd floor. Tel. ATwater 3992. Open 1 to 4 p. m., daily except Sunday, and 6 to 8, Tuesday, Friday.

Fridays, 8 p. m., Open House and Round Table Discussions.

SAN DIEGO—P. O. Box 857.

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Diary Of A Steel Worker

Steel Plant Sketches

By Theodore Kovalesky

In the morning, in the afternoon, and at night when the shifts change, the red men go into the stockhouses; but when they go in, it is only their clothing, shoes, pants, shirts, hats, and gloves that are red. Eight hours later the red men come out again, walking more slowly. And now their faces and hands are as rusty as their work clothes. White men and colored men plod through the brown-red dust toward the locker room, the difference in their skins blurred and modified by the paste of sweat and iron ore smeared into their flesh.

"A man can live in the stockhouse," they say. They mean that the killing heat and exhaustion of the furnaces is not part of their job. But how can a man live when he must cover himself with the red mud of raw iron; breathe in the dust of sinter, coke, limestone, and broken slag; strain his hands and arms pulling open the gates of the ore bins; and spend his life in the long brown-red tunnel of the stockhouse? And how long can a man live when he coughs up the dust of the stockhouse and "spits red"?

In Emil's place, John Bobich said to me, "I wonder when Steve will come back to work." "Don't know," I answered. "He's been sick quite a while, hasn't he?"

"Yeah," John said in his quiet, kindly way. "Long time now. You know," he smiled suddenly in a rather sheepish way, "it's funny how you miss a man. I guess it's you work with him a long time, and you get used to him. It's like two old horses in a harness."

How could anyone express it better? ... He was young and strong and willing when he came up on the furnace floor to work the other morning. I never knew his name, and I haven't seen him since.

It was one of those clear, stuffy mornings, and as the sun swung up toward noon the heat and lack of air became unbearable. Sweat flowed from us and work was anguish.

The kid tried hard to keep up, but he was too green. We were used to it... as much as a human being ever gets to be... and the job was as much as we could manage.

I'll never forget that kid, though, the way he looked as he fell. I had just happened to look up from the trough, when he moved into a ray of sunlight stretching down from a hole in the roof. His face, steaming sweat, caught the beam as though it was a spotlight, and all the weariness, bewildered dizziness, physical despair and exhaustion shone in the sudden light. Then his knees buckled. He dropped to the floor, out of the ray of sunshine, and the light in his face went out.

Before long the plant ambulance came howling up the road for him, and they took him away to the hospital. We haven't seen him since.

Civil War In Athens, Tenn.

By Art Preis

Capitalist politicians and mealy-mouthed liberals who encouraged the bloodiest sacrifices in the imperialist "war for democracy" were screaming "Mob rule!" last week at the real war for democracy that raged on election day in Athens, Tennessee.

A couple of thousand World War II veterans, many of whom had shed their blood overseas for Wall Street's brand of "democracy," decided to take their guns in hand and defend their democratic rights here at home. They did such a bang-up job that they drove the whole rotten Boss Crump-Cantrell machine right out of town and out of McMinn County.

The veterans had organized a GI Non-Partisan League which is seeking a progressive change from the graft-ridden, dictatorial rule of the old-line Democratic Party machine that has dominated Tennessee with terror and corruption for many years. The vets campaigned for a slate of Independent Democrats and Republicans.

On election day, the incumbent boss machine set more than 300 gun-toting "special deputies" loose on the town. These armed thugs began to beat up ex-GI poll watchers, drive them at gun-point from polling places, and threw a number of the veterans into jail on trumped-up charges.

When two of the veterans were tossed through a glass door of a polling place and returned covered with blood to their campaign headquarters, their buddies decided then and there to defend themselves against this terrorism in the only way possible — arms in hand.

They sent the word out, and in short order a couple of thousand veterans from all over the county mobilized in Athens. They didn't come empty-handed either. And when they found out that the sheriff's men had stolen ballot boxes

and were hiding them in the jail house under a guard of 75 pistol-packing hoodlums wearing bright new badges, the veterans proceeded to pour enough lead and dynamite into the jail to make the "deputies" cry "Uncle!"

An honest count of the ballots showed that the veterans' candidates had won overwhelmingly.

Double-talk liberals, who claim they "deplore" the attempt to terrorize and rob the Athens veterans of their elementary political rights, nevertheless also "deplore" as "mob rule" the efforts of the veterans to defend themselves.

"Mob rule" is a term generally used by ruling minorities when those who represent the will of the majority fight in a militant and organized fashion. When a ruling minority seeks to frustrate the majority's will by fraud and violence, it is called "constituted law and order."

When a thousand state troopers, with the support of a lynch mob, last February machine-gunned the Negro community of Columbia, Tenn., ransacked homes, clubbed women and children, and murdered two jailed Negroes — that was "law and order." When veterans in Athens, Tenn., resisted similar "law and order" — that is called "mob rule."

The liberals would have had the Athens veterans merely "deplore" the terror against their comrades and the stealing of the election. Hitler and Mussolini rose to power on the bones of the German and Italian workers because the liberals and labor leaders permitted the masses to fight only with windy "deploras."

If the veterans were misled by employers' propaganda into acting as strikebreakers and anti-labor vigilantes, the bosses would hail them as "patriots." But since the veterans fight on the picket lines and militantly defend their political rights — that, you see, is "mob rule."

On the Railroads

Which Side Are You On?

By Henry Adams

Breaking through hidebound craft and job lines, the upsurge of solidarity in the recent railroad strike carried with it all ranks of the workers. Most striking was the refusal of dining car crews and Pullman porters to work on scab trains taken out by strikebreaking railroad officials.



This refusal to cross the picket lines of the Trainmen and Engineers was a first-class expression of labor solidarity since the very unions receiving this support discriminate against Negroes. An ugly heritage from the years in which railroad unions held themselves aloof from the rest of the workers, all of the major railroad labor organizations draw the color line. By constitutional limitations on membership to "white males" or by local agreements, they have practiced Jim Crow.

It is time—and past time—for railroad men to pick their side on the race question. Bilbo and Rankin of Mississippi, Connally of Texas, Overton of Louisiana—yes, and Truman of Missouri—were the most blatant voices crying out against railroad men and their just demands. Coming from states where the poverty-stricken millions of Negro and white workers have been kept voiceless and voteless, these Jim-Crow representatives spearheaded the attack of the special privilege and big money interests against the railroad strike.

The use of the race question to "divide and

rule" has been a cornerstone in the policy of the Southern Bourbons. Supposed race differences have been played up in order to keep Southern workers split up and unorganized.

But the race question can no longer be ignored by union-minded workers, North or South. Now the same brutal methods developed by the "white supremacists"—lynchings, floggings, open flouting of law and civil rights—face white union organizers. The capitalist class uses the Southern politicians as their spokesmen in the drive against labor.

This realization is a major factor in the present CIO and AFL drives to organize the South. It is important to better the miserable working conditions of Southern workers. It is necessary to raise wages and remove the threats of cheap, competitive labor. Equally necessary and important is the organization of Southern workers so that they and their organizations can call to account the anti-labor, Jim-Crow representatives.

Railroad workers have a big task ahead. They are sadly familiar with the disastrous effects of the "divide-and-rule" policy that has split them into 21 craft organizations. Now, as the railroad workers begin to move ahead toward amalgamation, the race division too must be done away with.

Restrictive constitutional limitations and Jim-Crow practices which help only the Bilbos and the Rankins must be done away with. Railroad workers cannot ask for justice for ourselves unless they stand ready to give justice and equality to all.

Which side are you on?

DETROIT RALLY

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Speakers:

Emil Mazey, UAW-CIO
Gloster Current, NAACP
Matthew Smith, MESA
Al Renner, HREA-AFL
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"Vigilante Terror in Detroit"

By ARTHUR BURCH

Detroit Organizer of Socialist Workers Party

SWP CANDIDATES ANSWER 17 QUESTIONS OF NAACP

Nine Congressional candidates of the Socialist Workers Party in five states this week answered the 17 questions addressed to all congressional candidates by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Following is the full text of the NAACP questions and the answers by the SWP candidates:

FAIR EMPLOYMENT QUESTIONS:

1. Will you actively work for the passage of Federal legislation to establish a Fair Employment Practice Commission with power to enforce its orders? (a) If you are elected to the Senate, after reasonable debate will you vote for cloture on FEPC? (b) If you are elected to the House, will you sign a discharge petition to bring the FEPC bill to the floor for vote?

2. Will you insist that all Federal Departments and Agencies hire, assign and upgrade their personnel on the basis of qualifications, without regard to their race, religion or national origin?

ANSWER:

Our answer to all these questions is Yes. The Socialist Workers Party stands for full social, economic and political equality for the Negro people. Therefore we are bitterly opposed to all discriminatory employment practices. Our members are in the forefront of the struggle to abolish discrimination against Negro, Jewish, Mexican and other foreign-born workers in industry.



WILLIAM BOHANNON

try. We are the firmest advocates of equality for all workers in the unions.

In office we will fight to establish federal, state and local commissions which will have real power to take action against Jim-Crow and anti-Semitic employers and government officials. To be genuinely effective, such commissions should not only have strong authority, but should be staffed by members of labor and minority organizations, and should be answerable to them.

CIVIL RIGHTS QUESTIONS:

3. Will you actively work for the enactment of a Federal statute abolishing the poll tax? (a) If you are



DOROTHY SCHULTZ

elected to the Senate, after reasonable debate will you vote for cloture on the anti-poll tax bill? (b) If you are elected to the House, will you sign a discharge petition on the anti-poll tax bill?

4. Will you insist that no qualified citizen shall be denied the ballot in Federal elections, and call for a Congressional investigation when there is evidence that such ballot has been denied?

5. Will you actively support and vote for the passage of anti-lynching legislation? (a) If you are elected to the Senate, after reasonable debate will you vote for cloture on the anti-lynching bill? (b) If you are elected to the House, will you sign a discharge petition on the anti-lynching bill?

6. If elected to the House, will you vote against further appropriations for Rankin's Committee on Un-American Activities? (a) Will you support a resolution to abolish that Committee?

ANSWER:

Yes, to each of these questions. We demand the death penalty for all lynchers, and all who inspire lynching.

We are also active partisans of anti-lynching legislation, although legislation alone will not be sufficient to end these bestial practices of the Southern Bourbons. In addition to supporting such legislation, and voting for cloture on filibusters against civil rights legislation we call on the labor movement and the Negro people to organize themselves to resist the lynch mobs and the fascist bands. We are absolutely opposed to any and all restrictions on the

right to vote. This includes the poll tax, and the white primary, and the so-called "educational" qualifications in the South. Not only a Congressional investigation, but the power of the entire government must be used to curtail any attacks on the right to vote in federal, state and local elections.

WELFARE LEGISLATION QUESTIONS:

7. Will you vote for housing legislation such as the Wagner-Ellender-Taft Housing Bill which provides for the construction of a million units annually of public and private housing?

8. Will you actively work for the passage of health legislation such as the Wagner-Murray National Health Bill, providing for pre-paid health insurance, maternal and child care aid?

9. Will you vote to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act so as to increase the minimum wage for persons covered by the Act from 40c per hour to 65c the first year, 70c the second and 75c the third?

10. Will you actively work to secure the early enactment of a Federal Aid to Education Bill?

11. Will you actively work for the early consideration and passage of legislation such as the Wagner-Murray-Dingell Bill extending the benefits of Social Security laws to domestic and agricultural workers?

12. Will you offer and work for the adoption of amendments designed to prohibit racial segregation and discrimination wherever Federal funds are used to aid education, housing, health and employment?

ANSWER:

We certainly will. In certain cases we would offer amendments to these measures for the purpose of liberalizing and expanding their benefits. In every case



MALCOLM WALKER

we would support legislation providing for the economic, educational and social welfare of the masses. For example, we favor taking the 16 billion dollars a year now being expended on war preparations and using it for a national low-cost housing program.

ARMED FORCES QUESTIONS:

13. Will you work to promote the integration of qualified citizens in all branches of the armed forces without regard to race, religion or national origin?

ANSWER:

Emphatically, yes. That means we oppose all "quota" systems and all forms of segregated units. We favor "mixed units" in all sections of the armed forces. Military Jim Crow must go. So must the officer caste system and the discriminatory Articles of



JOSEPH HANSEN

War and court-martial set-up. We are in favor of genuinely democratizing the armed forces.

VETERANS QUESTIONS:

14. Will you work to assure that veterans of minority races receive full benefits and participate in all phases of the G.I. rehabilitation program, including housing, hospitalization, education, employment, training and loans?

ANSWER:

Yes. We also advocate trade union wages for unemployed, disabled and student veterans of all races, and a sliding scale of compensation so that their allowances will automatically be adjusted upward as the cost of living rises.

LABOR QUESTIONS:

15. Will you oppose all legislation which would impair the right of organized labor to bargain collectively, engage in peaceful picketing, or strike?

ANSWER:

We have always opposed such legislation, and always will. We fought against Truman's slave-labor bill, supported by the Democrats, and against the Case strikebreaking bill, supported by the Republicans.

LIBERALIZE RULES OF CONGRESS QUESTIONS:

16. If elected to the House, will you support: (a) Resolution requiring House rules so as to take away the power of the Committee on Rules to bottle up proposed legislation thereby preventing the same from coming to the floor in due course for vote? (b) Resolution to reduce the number of signatures required on a discharge petition from 218 to 145 (1/3 of House membership), the number that was necessary before the rule was changed in 1935?

17. If you are elected to the Senate, will you actively support a resolution providing that filibusters may be shut-off by simple majority vote?

ANSWER:

Yes. We support all measures designed to end the anti-democratic rules now prevailing in Congress. We believe majority vote should decide all questions, and that no committees should have the power to block consideration of legislation. We also believe in the abolition of the Senate and the establishment of a one-house legislative body.

Having answered your 17 questions, we would like to make two additional remarks:

1. We do not believe the NAACP questionnaire exhausts the list of questions on which every candidate for Congress should declare himself. The NAACP questions are limited only to domestic issues, and we think every candidate should be judged also by his attitude toward international matters, including the following:

Preparations for a Third World War (we are opposed to all steps in this direction). The policy of keeping American troops abroad as occupation forces (we demand the immediate withdrawal of all such troops). Dom-



CHARLES SWETT

ination of colonial peoples (we are for their immediate and complete independence).

2. Both the Democratic and Republican parties have shown themselves to be the enemies of the labor movement and the Negro people by their record on all of the 17 questions submitted by the NAACP. For these reasons, we favor the establishment of an Independent Labor Party, controlled by the trade unions and embracing the Negro organizations, and running both white and Negro candidates for office on a militant program.

(Signed)
WILLIAM E. BOHANNON, for Representative, 11th District, N. J.
GEORGE BREITMAN, for U. S. Senate, N. J.
GRACE CARLSON, for U. S. Senate, Minn.
WARREN CREEL, for Representative, 3rd District, Minn.
JOSEPH HANSEN, for U. S. Senate, N. Y.
ARLENE PHILLIPS, for Representative, 13th District, N. J.
DOROTHY SCHULTZ, for Representative, 4th District, Minn.
CHARLES SWETT, for U. S. Senate, Wash.
MALCOLM WALKER, for Representative, 9th District, Ohio

Dobbs Blasts Stalinist Attempt At Deal With Boss Politicians

NEW YORK, Aug. 3—Farrell Dobbs, Socialist Workers Party candidate for Governor of New York, issued a statement to the press today exposing the dishonesty and treachery of the Stalinist party in the state election campaign. The text of his statement follows:

For weeks now the Communist (Stalinist) Party in New York has been trying to cook up a deal with the political representatives of Wall Street. They have been haggling and horse-trading with the Democratic bosses behind the backs of the New York workers.

At the opening of the period for obtaining petitions necessary to get on the ballot, the Stalinists remained silent. Obviously, they were still bargaining in the back rooms with the Democratic machine bosses. Three days later, they suddenly announced a campaign to get on the ballot. The real meaning of this belated move is shown clearly in the policy statement of the Stalinist campaign manager, Gerson:

"Defeat of the reactionary Dewey administration can be effected by a labor-progressive-Democratic coalition... The Communists are now taking all the necessary steps to place their own wide ticket in the field and will keep this excellent ticket in the field if there is no other effective anti-Dewey alternative for the Voters of New York."

STALINIST POLICY
Just to make sure there is no misunderstanding, the Stalinists add in the July 30 Daily Worker that "the Communist Party, in nominating this ticket, is by no means departing from its policy of striving for the broadest possible coalition of progressive forces..." By putting a ticket in the field it is "exercising a legitimate influence on behalf of such a coalition."

The meaning of this move is clear. The Stalinists, unable as yet to close the deal with the Democratic henchmen of Wall Street, are making a last desperate attempt to apply pres-

sure on them. They threaten the capitalist politicians with running their own candidates if such a deal is not consummated. But they are very careful to leave the door wide open for retreat and withdrawal from the ballot.

The Stalinists are simply continuing their cynical war-time policy of horse-trading with the Jim Crow party of the Bilbos and Rankins, the Mays and the Caffees. Benjamin Davis, Stalinist candidate for U.S. Senator, is an enrolled member of the Democratic Party. He is a member of the same party as lynch law advocates Eastland and Talmadge!

The Stalinists pay lip service to the struggle against race hatred but in reality are political bell-hops in the camp of Jim Crow.

They tossed Earl Browder into the ash can but "Browderism"—the policy of supporting the bosses—lives on and thrives in the corrupt and degenerate Stalinist Party. Like Browder, Foster is wallowing in the mud with the capitalist politicians.

ONLY ONE WAY
There is only one way to insure the defeat of the profiteering monopolists, labor-haters, war-mongers and Negro-baiters who own the Republican and Democratic Parties lock, stock and barrel. The workers of New York must build an Independent Labor Party. The candidates of the Socialist Workers Party stand four-square for building such a party that would end the rule of Wall Street.

The candidates of the Socialist Workers Party have no allies in the two capitalist parties. Our allies are the poor people of this state, the workers and farmers. Our program is a working class program and our fight is the fight of the oppressed of all races.

ARMED FORCES QUESTIONS:

13. Will you work to promote the integration of qualified citizens in all branches of the armed forces without regard to race, religion or national origin?

ANSWER:

Emphatically, yes. That means we oppose all "quota" systems and all forms of segregated units. We favor "mixed units" in all sections of the armed forces. Military Jim Crow must go. So must the officer caste system and the discriminatory Articles of

12,000 Sign Petition In Drive To Put SWP On N. Y. Ballot

By Carolyn Kerry

SWP Campaign Manager

NEW YORK, Aug. 5—As the drive to put the Socialist Workers Party (Trotskyists) ticket on the New York State ballot entered its second week, over 12,000 signatures have already been obtained.

Far more than the required number of signatures (fifty for each county) have been obtained in 52 of the State's 62 counties. By the end of the week most of the ten remaining counties will be included on the completed list.

The petition drive is now entering its second stage: to secure 25,000, or double the number of signatures legally required for presentation to the election board in September.

New York City campaign workers continue to hold top rank in the petition campaign. At a mass meeting held in Harlem last Friday to protest lynch terror throughout the country 1100 signatures were obtained. On the following night 2200 New York workers signed their names to petitions in 1 1/2 hours. The Campaign Committee divided the counties of N. Y. State into 7 areas:

The Buffalo area which includes Niagara, Orleans, Tennessee, Erie, Wyoming, Chautauque, Cattaraugus, Allegany Counties.

On July 31, William Kitt,

populated and primarily farmer country in the northern end of the state was completed by the middle of last week.

Mohawk Valley Territory: This area covers Albany, Rensselaer, Schenectady, Montgomery, Fulton, Herkimer Oneida, Madison, Onondago, Oswego counties. This morning campaign workers reported by phone that they had filled the quota of signatures in all of these counties but three. They assure us that they will also be over the top in these three counties by the end of this week.

Adjacent New York Counties: This area includes Green, Columbia, Sullivan, Ulster, Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Westchester, Nassau and Suffolk counties. Eight of the 11 counties in this area are completed.

Despite competition from the Communist Party, Socialist Party, Liberal Party, and Socialist Labor Party, the universal report from all our campaign workers is that our petitions are receiving a warm reception from upstate workers and poor farmers.

It is important, however, that there be no relaxation in our efforts until we have reached the goal of 25,000 signatures.